

British voters flee Conservatives

LONDON (R) — Britain's ruling Conservative Party suffered humiliation on Friday after voters, determined to take revenge on their deeply unpopular Prime Minister John Major, inflicted defeat in five parliamentary by-elections. In the most bruising loss for Mr. Major, the centrist Liberal Democrats won the seat of Eastleigh in southern England, relegating the Conservatives to third place. In the 1992 general election, the Conservatives won the seat by 17,700 votes. Opposition parties claimed the results were a devastating indictment of Mr. Major to step down or call a general election. Ministers admitted the results were very disappointing. But party chairman Norman Fowler said Mr. Major's job was safe and he would lead the party into parliament — that's the mandate which counts," said Mr. Fowler. I do not see the need for any instant policy changes." Mr. Major's popularity has been hit by hefty tax increases which look effect in April, U-turns on key elements of government policy, the after-effects of a two-year recession and a series of headline-grabbing scandals involving senior Conservatives.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية. الراي.

Volume 18 Number 5632

AMMAN SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1994, MUHARRAM 2, 1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Ibrahimi pursues Yemen peace bid unfazed by war

Combined agency despatches

UNDAUNTED by the unrelenting warfare, veteran U.N. peace broker Lakhdar Ibrahimi Friday continued his efforts to mediate an end to Yemen's five-week-old civil war.

Radio Sanaa said he left the northern Yemeni capital "disappointed" by violations of the ceasefire he negotiated the previous day between northern government forces and the southern separatists.

However, Mr. Ibrahimi's spokesman said the man who negotiated an end to Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war was unfazed by the persistent fighting.

Spokesman Nejib Friji said that in the Lebanese conflict Mr. Ibrahimi, a former Algerian foreign minister, "witnessed dozens of violations of ceasefires but that did not prevent his mission from being ... most successful."

Yemen erupted into war on May 4 after a nine-month power struggle between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh crippled the country.

Northern Yemeni forces backed by heavy armour on Friday tried to punch through defence lines around Aden, meeting a barrage of shellfire from the city's southern defenders.

The black smoke from incoming northern rounds rose over shantytowns 10

kilometres northwest of Aden outskirts, where the northern army is trying to seize control of power and water supply lines from heavily outnumbered defenders.

A northern official source said earlier in Sanaa that the northern forces were holding to the ceasefire pledge made for Thursday night despite what he called southern violations.

The ceasefire, the second to be issued in a week, was made allowing talks between President Ali Saleh and Mr. Ibrahimi.

Both sides accused each other of violating the ceasefire.

During his two-day visit, Mr. Ibrahimi conferred separately with the U.S. and French ambassadors and the Russian charge d'affaires at their request. He also met the ambassadors of Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Libya, the U.N. spokesman said. Mr. Ibrahimi also held talks with representatives of 22 political parties in Sanaa and with parliament members.

Sanaa radio said parliament speaker Sheikh Abdullah Ben Al Ahmar informed Mr. Ibrahimi that "all what concerns Yemenis is unity, unity or death."

The radio quoted Mr. Ibrahimi as telling the deputies that the world community was "concerned over what is taking place in Yemen. The (Yemeni) brothers are requested to over-

come their problems themselves."

Mr. Friji would not say when or where Mr. Ibrahimi was meeting southern leaders. "For sure he is going to see all those concerned in the Yemen conflict, but I do not know where and when," Mr. Friji said.

Diplomatic sources in Sanaa said Mr. Ibrahimi's talks with southern leaders would likely take place in a Gulf Arab state, probably the United Arab Emirates.

Mr. Ibrahimi said he would see all parties "and we will use the also me language and present the same demands," Sanaa Radio said.

He said he would continue his efforts for dialogue.

Mr. Ibrahimi's mission is part of a June 1 U.N. Security Council resolution, which calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities and an arms embargo of the belligerents.

He flew to Jordan and then would go to Saudi Arabia, where he was to meet in Jeddah with Saudi officials about Yemen's conflict, said Mr. Friji.

Mr. Ibrahimi's visit to Saudi Arabia reflected his apparent desire to involve Yemen's Arab neighbours in a solution to the conflict wracking the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula.

Although the fighting has

(Continued on page 5)



Southern militiamen prepare ammunition under a shelter on the front line of Saba on Friday (AFP photo)

Jordan has 'clear vision' to boost ties with Syria, will not hurry into blocs

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan has a "clear vision" for raising the level of economic and political coordination with Syria but pragmatism, not emotions, will define any steps the Kingdom will take in that direction, political sources have said.

But they cautioned against over-optimism, encouraged by some news reports, that the two countries and Lebanon are about to forge an economic alliance similar to the defunct Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) that grouped the Kingdom, Iraq, Egypt and Yemen.

News reports said that Syria and Jordan were planning to deliberate the creation of the said alliance during a meeting of the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee scheduled for Saturday. But informed sources confirmed that no coherent steps have been taken towards forming the grouping.

The Syrian delegation will be headed by Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zoubi and will include Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa.

However, it was not certain on Friday whether the meeting would be held as scheduled on Saturday. Syria had not confirmed its delegation's arrival in Amman on Saturday, sources said.

Parliamentary sources said the idea of closer cooperation among Amman, Beirut and Damascus was informally brought up by lawmakers in their talks with Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri during his visit to Jordan in May. They said Mr. Berri communicated his talks with the Jordanian deputies to Foreign Minister Faris Bouez who raised the subject when he visited the Kingdom last month.

Other sources said Syria, which does not have an ambassador in Amman, had floated the proposal for the alliance to counter the negative impact on the economies of the three countries of the Palestinian

batting average," Dr. Shaath said.

Several countries promised to top up their contributions at another meeting in Paris on July 11, he said.

The promised aid "should be received tomorrow, very soon," said Dr. Shaath. "I am satisfied, I think the meeting has made significant progress towards making peace work on the ground."

The \$42 million will help cover a projected 1994 deficit of \$77 million as Palestinian leaders try to finance the rapidly growing police force and establish a civil service in Gaza and Jericho.

The announcement came at the close of a two-day meeting of the ad-hoc liaison committee, coordinated by the Norwegian government.

Donor nations have balked at making good on \$2.4 billion in pledges for Palestinian self-rule before seeing specific

plans on how the money would be spent. This year, the group was expected to provide \$675 million, but only a small fraction has materialised.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat became so irked at the slow pace of disbursement that he threatened last week to delay his return to Palestinian lands unless the process was speeded up.

The Paris meeting was chaired by Jan Egeland, state secretary of the Norwegian foreign ministry.

The ad hoc liaison committee was formed by the donor countries after the donor conference in Washington on Oct. 1 pledged \$2.4 billion over a period of five years. Thursday's meeting is the second to be held by the committee, which first met Nov. 5.

Permanent members of the donor committee include the

West Bank.

Ahmad Qouriea (Abu Alaa), the Palestinian minister for economic cooperation, dismissed reports of Jordan-PLO differences over the role of the committee.

"This committee is crucial to the interests of both sides and to safeguard people's interests and deposits," Abu Alaa said in an interview with the Jordan Times.

The committee, he said, is particularly important for the Palestinian authority to ensure professional monitoring and supervision of banks and monetary transactions, especially pending the setting up of a Palestinian monetary authority.

"This is not a political com-

mittee, but a highly specialised technical committee to prevent chaos and confusion," Abu Alaa said.

Mr. Kaddoumi, who will officially sign the agreement once a decision is made in Tunis, indicated that existing reservations should not and will not obstruct cooperation with Jordan.

"Economic cooperation with Jordan is crucial for both sides. Consequently, all obstacles should be removed to facilitate and consolidate cooperation with Jordan," Mr. Kaddoumi said.

Mr. Kaddoumi said, however, that it was understood that Jordan will assume a major role, especially in the preliminary stages, but that

the task of the committee should be clearly defined.

"There is no doubt that in the preliminary stages our Jordanian brothers should participate actively (in coordinating monetary supervision).... thus the joint committee will be a provisional one pending the establishment of a Palestinian central bank," he said.

Mr. Kaddoumi did not give any reasons for the delay, implying that a decision has not been taken yet on when talks on issue will be resumed with Jordan.

Mr. Abu Alaa said he saw no reason whatsoever for the procrastination and that

(Continued on page 5)

BEIRUT

TWO EVENING FLIGHTS
AS OF 18TH MAY 1994
IN ADDITION TO THE
FOUR EXISTING MORNING FLIGHTS
WITH ADEQUATE SPACE FOR CARGO
ROYAL JORDANIAN
YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD

U.N. envoy, Yemeni minister arrive here

AMMAN (J.T.) — United Nations (U.N.) envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi arrived here Friday en route to Saudi Arabia to hold talks with southern Yemeni officials on ending the five-week-old Yemeni civil war.

Mr. Ibrahimi, a special envoy of Secretary General Boutros Ghali, said in an arrival statement that his talks with Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Sanaa were good.

He added that Yemeni officials in Sanaa had their own views on the resumption of dialogue with Aden and so had the southern Yemeni leaders.

He stressed that the ceasefire announced in Yemen after the adoption of U.N. Security Council Resolution 924 on the Yemeni crisis did not hold.

Mr. Ibrahimi said he will continue his endeavours to find a peaceful settlement to the

Yemeni crisis, by bringing together the Yemeni parties to the negotiations table to settle their differences.

"Fighting does not solve the problem, that dialogue is the best way to end the Yemeni crisis," Mr. Ibrahimi said, adding that the international community was ready to contribute towards ending the Yemeni crisis by peaceful means.

Mr. Ibrahimi was received upon arrival by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan, the Yemeni and Saudi charge d'affaires in Amman and the U.N. resident representative in Amman.

Meanwhile Yemeni Minister of Justice Abdullah Ahmad Ghanem also arrived in Amman carrying a message to His Majesty King Hussein from

(Continued on page 5)

IAEA halts N. Korea aid, sanction bid gains speed

VIENNA (Agencies) — The United Nations nuclear watchdog agency voted Friday to suspend technical aid to North Korea for barring full inspections of its nuclear facilities.

Though limited in scope, the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) cutoff is the first formal sanctions against North Korea, for what many nations believe is a policy to hide a nuclear weapons programme.

The IAEA board approved a resolution suspending all non-medical technical aid to North Korea. Such aid involved mostly training and nuclear-related programmes in industry and agriculture.

The assistance is worth only about \$250,000 a year. But cutting it was the strongest measure the agency could take on its own.

The IAEA resolution also strongly deplored North

issue of much broader economic sanctions.

"I will not venture guesses as to where we go from here," said Hans Blix, director general of the IAEA. "It appears, however, that the DPRK (North Korea) has deliberately elected to maintain uncertainty and ambiguity" about its nuclear programme.

The IAEA board approved a resolution suspending all non-medical technical aid to North Korea. Such aid involved mostly training and nuclear-related programmes in industry and agriculture.

The assistance is worth only about \$250,000 a year. But cutting it was the strongest measure the agency could take on its own.

The IAEA resolution also strongly deplored North

(Continued on page 5)

'No economic project with Israel until fundamental issues solved'

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan will not implement projects with Israel except within a multilateral framework and after the Arab countries decide to lift the Arab boycott against Israel, a senior Jordanian official has said.

Minister of Information Jawad Al Anani also said Jordan would sign a final peace agreement with Israel only after the issues of Palestinian refugees is resolved and the future status of Jerusalem is determined "to our satisfaction."

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Anani described as multilateral the principles that Jordan and Israel reached during the trilateral talks in Washington last week concerning development projects in the Jordan Valley.

"There are no joint economic projects between Jordan and Israel," Dr. Anani, who kept close contact with the recent Washington talks, said. "These are multilateral projects."

In their Washington talks, the two sides agreed on a comprehensive development project in the Jordan Valley, building a canal linking the Red Sea and Dead Sea and constructing a road from Aqaba through Eilat in Israel to Tabas in Egypt.

"It's too early to talk about the road and the canal, especially that they will take years of feasibility studies," said Dr. Anani, a prominent economist.

The minister said the two sides had agreed to study these projects in the future, but that their implementation will only take place within the framework of a final peace agreement with Israel.

Dr. Anani added that joint Jordanian-Israeli economic projects would only take place pending the Arab countries' decision on whether to lift their boycott against Israel.

"We cannot begin with the joint economic projects until we see what happens with the Arab boycott against Israel," Dr. Anani said.

He reiterated that the Kingdom would not enter negotiations on the economic issues until the borders with Israel were agreed upon according to the British mandate boundaries drawn between Transjordan and Palestine in 1922.

Jordan and Israel agreed in Washington to form a joint commission which would begin drawing these borders according to the mandate boundaries next month in Jordan and Israel.

The Kingdom, referring to the 1922 boundaries, maintains that Israel has occupied a total of 360 square kilometres of its land in the south between 1967

and 1969, and two square kilometres in the north, which it intends to take back when the demarcation line is drawn up.

Dr. Anani, however, said that Jordan will not negotiate with Israel its borders with the West Bank since it did not consider these territories as Israel's.

"We will draw our borders with the West Bank not with the Israelis, but with hopefully the Palestinian state," he said.

The minister stressed that the borders were only part of a peace agreement, adding that the Kingdom had to know the status of Jerusalem and Palestinian refugees before signing.

"We will not sign a peace agreement with Israel until the issues of refugees and Jerusalem are dealt with," Dr. Anani said. "There cannot be peace without Jerusalem and refugees."

He added that although Jerusalem was not in the geographical jurisdiction of Jordan to negotiate, the Kingdom had to have a clear idea of the future status of the Holy City.

While Israel claims Jerusalem as its "undivided eternal capital," the Palestinians consider East Jerusalem as the future capital of the Palestinian state, and Jordan insists that Jerusalem is an issue that concerns all Arabs, Muslims and

(Continued on page 5)

PLO gets \$42m; Israel bars Jerusalem as autonomy base

PARIS (Agencies) — The Palestinians won limited immediate aid from international donors on Friday to pay their new police force and start up self-government in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, with a pledge of more cash soon.

Israel, meanwhile, said it had prevented Jerusalem from being named as the seat of the Palestinian Council for Economic Development and Reconstruction, as proclaimed by a May 14 Palestinian decree.

Palestinian delegation head Nabil Shaath told Reuters during a break in the two-day meeting that donors had agreed to pay \$42 million immediately into a fund to meet the urgent costs of running the new Palestinian National Authority.

"Of course we did not cover all our requirements but you can't get everything you want at one go. We were looking for \$70 million, but that's a good

batting average," Dr. Shaath said.

Several countries promised to top up their contributions at another meeting in Paris on July 11, he said.

The promised aid "should be received tomorrow, very soon," said Dr. Shaath. "I am satisfied, I think the meeting has made significant progress towards making peace work on the ground."

The \$42 million will help cover a projected 1994 deficit of \$77 million as Palestinian leaders try to finance the rapidly growing police force and establish a civil service in Gaza and Jericho.

The announcement came at the close of a two-day meeting of the ad-hoc liaison committee, coordinated by the Norwegian government.

Donor nations have balked at making good on \$2.4 billion in pledges for Palestinian self-rule before seeing specific

plans on how the money would be spent. This year, the group was expected to provide \$675 million, but only a small fraction has materialised.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat became so irked at the slow pace of disbursement that he threatened last week to delay his return to Palestinian lands unless the process was speeded up.

The Paris meeting was chaired by Jan Egeland, state secretary of the Norwegian foreign ministry.

The ad hoc liaison committee was formed by the donor countries after the donor conference in Washington on Oct. 1 pledged \$2.4 billion over a period of five years. Thursday's meeting is the second to be held by the committee, which first met Nov. 5.

Permanent members of the donor committee include the

West Bank.

Ahmad Qouriea (Abu Alaa), the Palestinian minister for economic cooperation, dismissed reports of Jordan-PLO differences over the role of the committee.

(Continued on page 5)

287 Palestinians freed, but confined to Jericho

JERICHO (Agencies) — Israel finally freed 287 Palestinian prisoners on Friday after they agreed to stay in this self-rule enclave for 48 hours while negotiations go on over their fate.

Scores of the freed men embraced waiting relatives while others lined up by a public telephone to call home.

Israel tried to hand over the men to the Palestinian police in Jericho on Thursday to ensure they serve out their sentences in the enclave, in line with the May 5 autonomy agreement.

The prisoners — 128 of whom were sentenced to life — demanded to be allowed to go to their homes across the West Bank, not to be confined to Jericho, and with police support refused to enter the town.

Five were Jericho residents who later went home.

Faisal Hussein, the leading Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) figure on the Israeli-occupied West Bank,

turned out in the middle of the night to try to resolve the dispute.

The stand-off was settled before dawn — at least for the next 48 hours — after the prisoners spent the night in buses outside the town, Palestinian police spokesman Mohammad Shaker said.

Bnt, there was confusion over how long they would have to stay here.

"The prison authorities told us we would go home after three months," said Mahmoud Fousseini, 22, jailed for life after killing a Palestinian "collaborator."

The reason for the three-month delay is apparently because negotiations on spreading autonomy to the rest of the West Bank are due to begin by then.

Prisoners with shorter prison sentences carried signed documents instructing them to go to

(Continued on page 5)

PLO indecision, overlapping of roles delay accord with Jordan

From Lamis K. Andoni
In Tunis

A DELAY IN SIGNING or at least further discussions of an economic cooperation "plan of action" agreement reached with Jordan last month is due to lack of a final top-leadership decision, internal differences and a state of uncertainty that seem to dominate the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), according to senior PLO officials.

The delay, which PLO officials seem to find no specific explanation for, however, does not reflect any fundamental differences inside the leadership over the urgent need for close and spe-

cial cooperation with Jordan but mainly stems from absence of clarity on the form of cooperation and mainly the framework of the political relationship between the two sides.

Therefore, all agreements reached so far with Jordan are subject to delays, differences and last-minute modifications.

The bottom line of reservations every time any kind of agreement is reached with Jordan remains concerns among some PLO officials that an active Jordanian economic role in the West Bank will practically enhance the Kingdom's historic political role there.

However, after the signing

of the political and economic agreements with Israel, PLO officials say they realise that the PLO will have to decide whether to further Israeli control of the West Bank and Gaza Strip or further integrate with Jordan. Although there is a consensus on the need for economic integration with Jordan, there are disagreements on the extent and the shape of Jordan's role in the monetary and economy of the future Palestinian entity.

There is unanimous support in Tunis for the adoption of the Jordanian dinar as the official payment currency. Most concede that the alternative is to consolidate Israeli domination through

the Israeli shekel. Consequently PLO officials concede that measures should be implemented to guarantee the stability of the dinar. However, there are reservations over the political implications of two clauses in the recent draft agreement, which they say should be clarified with Jordan.

The two issues involve a tentative agreement to set up a joint monetary committee entrusted with supervising all banks and financial institutions in the West Bank and Gaza and a Jordanian suggestion that the Palestinian authority opens a credit account at the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) mainly to cover payments for Jordanian exports

to the Palestinian autonomy areas.

PLO officials who are said to include the head of the PLO foreign department Farouk Kaddoumi do not oppose the idea of the joint committee, but want to ensure that it will not infringe upon the functions of a Palestinian monetary authority once it is established.

According to a senior Jordanian official source, however, the committee's main role is of a coordinating nature since all banks will be dealing with the Jordanian dinar and that the Jordanian supervisory role will diminish as the Palestinian authority consolidates its hold and is extended to the rest of the

West Bank.

Ahmad Qouriea (Abu Alaa), the Palestinian minister for economic cooperation, dismissed reports of Jordan-PLO differences over the role of the committee.

"This committee is crucial to the interests of both sides and to safeguard people's interests and deposits," Abu Alaa said in an interview with the Jordan Times.

The committee, he said, is particularly important for the Palestinian authority to ensure professional monitoring and supervision of banks and monetary transactions, especially pending the setting up of a Palestinian monetary authority.

"This is not a political com-

mittee, but a highly specialised technical committee to prevent chaos and confusion," Abu Alaa said.

Mr. Kaddoumi, who will officially sign the agreement once a decision is made in Tunis, indicated that existing reservations should not and will not obstruct cooperation with Jordan.

"Economic cooperation with Jordan is crucial for both sides. Consequently, all obstacles should be removed to facilitate and consolidate cooperation with Jordan," Mr. Kaddoumi said.

Mr. Kaddoumi said, however, that it was understood that Jordan will assume a major role, especially in the preliminary stages, but that

(Continued on page 5)

Full text of Jordan-Israel agreement to start talks

Agence France Presse

AMMAN — Here is the full text of three documents signed Tuesday by Israel and Jordan at bilateral talks in Washington, obtained by AFP here.

The documents were signed by the head of the Israeli negotiating team, Eliakim Rubinstein, and his Jordanian counterpart, Fayez Tarawneh following two days of talks.

The documents make up a sub-agenda, outlining in detail issues set out in the joint Israel-Jordan common agenda for peace talks agreed by the two sides on Sept. 14, 1994 in Washington.

The sub-agenda, which lays down joint Israeli-Jordanian projects, will form the basis for further bilateral talks which are expected to take place next month in either Israel or Jordan.

The Middle East peace process The bilateral peace negotiations The Jordan-Israel track Common sub-agenda

Group A: Water, Energy and the Environment

In their pursuit of achieving the goal of the Jordan-Israel track of negotiations, Jordan and Israel have identified the components of their bilateral negotiations and have listed them under section B of the common agenda. Item B (7) addresses the phasing of the discussion, agreement and implementation of the agenda items including appropriate mechanisms for negotiations in specific fields. It is understood the two parties shall cooperate to achieve the goal.

Resolution of the issues of the conflict is to result in mitigation of the adverse impacts and damages resulting from the conflict.

Items of this sub-agenda listed hereunder respond to the intent of detailed discussions over the various issues in the subjects of water, energy, the environment and the Jordan Rift Valley, and provide practical steps to fulfil the objectives of items B (3), B (6)-A and B (7) of the common agenda.

I Surface water basins

A: Negotiation of mutual recognition of the rightful water allocations of the two sides in Jordan River and Yarmouk River waters with mutually acceptable quality.

Securing the unimpeded flow of the mutually recognised rightful allocations of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Israel respectively in Jordan and Yarmouk River waters with the above agreed quality through agreed conveyance systems.

B — Restoration of water quality in the Jordan River below lake Tiberias to reasonably usable standards.

C — Protection of water quality.

II Shared groundwater aquifers

A — Renewable fresh water aquifers — southern area between the Dead Sea and the Red Sea.

B — Fossil aquifers — area between the Dead Sea and the Red Sea.

C — Protection of water quality of both.

III Alleviation of water shortage

A — Development of water resources.

B — Municipal water shortages.

C — Irrigation water shortages.

IV — Potentials of future bilateral cooperation, within a regional context where appropriate.

A — General

1. Nature protection, natural resources and biodiversity.
2. Air quality control, including general standards, criteria and all types of man-made hazardous radiation, fumes and gases.
3. Marine environment and coastal resources management.
4. Waste management including hazardous wastes.
5. Pest control.
6. Abatement and control of hazards to the environment.
7. Desertification.
8. Public awareness and environmental education.
9. Environmental management tools.
10. Natural disasters.
11. Indigenous energy resources development.
12. Energy generation, conventional and non-conventional, water needs and environmental considerations.
13. Electricity grid connection and oil pipelines.
14. Regional charters.

B — Jordan Rift Valley

1. Red Sea-Dead Sea canal.
2. Dead Sea chemical industries.
3. Management of water basins.
4. Development of geothermal resources.
5. Mining and mineral resources exploitation.
6. Industrial export processing zones.
7. Transportation facilities and infrastructures.
8. Agricultural development and operations.
9. Archeology and tourism.
10. Inter-disciplinary activities in water, environment and energy.

The Jordan Israel common sub-agenda

Security

In their pursuit of achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive peace, and in fulfillment of the principle of respect for the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the states in the region Jordan and Israel, in their negotiations leading to a treaty of peace as stipulated in article C of the common agenda, have identified the components of their negotiations and have listed them under the section on security, based on Article B (2) of the common agenda, as follows:

1. The article "refraining from actions or activities by either side that may adversely affect the security of the other or may prejudice the final outcome of the negotiations," refers to the period throughout the negotiations leading to a peace treaty, as well as to the future relations between the parties under the treaty. It is agreed that negotiations should encompass a comprehensive range of security issues and should develop principles and means to deal with such issues.

2. Mutually agreed upon security arrangements.

(i) Discussion on security arrangements that can be implemented between the two states, including along the defined international boundary between Jordan and Israel based on article B (5) of the common agenda.

(ii) Implementation mechanisms within a defined time frame will be agreed upon.

3. Threats to security resulting from all kinds of terrorism.

In fulfillment of the principle of "non-intervention or interference in internal affairs" and to preserve the stability of the peaceful relations, and security arrangements on the international boundary between Jordan and Israel, the following procedure is agreed:

(i) Identification of all possible terrorism threats, including cross-border terrorism and subversion.

(ii) Discussions on principles and means to deal with such threats.

4. Security Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)

Respecting and complying with the agreed international boundary between Israel and Jordan, as defined in article B (5) of the common agenda, the following is agreed:

(i) Discussions on military and other CBMs that will strengthen the agreed security arrangements and will promote peaceful relations.

(ii) Discussions on multilateral arms control confidence and security building measures, in the areas of exchange of military information and activities, that have a bilateral application.

(iii) Discussions on possible implementation mechanisms based upon a time frame.

5. Agreement on mutually satisfactory measures will form part of a treaty of peace.

6. Arms control and regional security.

Further to the agreements reached on security arrangements and various CBMs, in areas around the defined international boundary between Jordan and Israel, the parties will develop mechanisms for coordination on issues pertaining to arms control and regional security, in accordance with relevant agreements reached in the multilateral working group on arms control and regional security.

The Jordan-Israel Common Sub-Agenda

Borders and territorial matters

In their pursuit of achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive peace, and in fulfillment of the principle of respect for the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the states in the region Jordan and Israel, in their negotiations leading to a treaty of peace, as stipulated in Article C of the common agenda, have identified the components of their negotiations on borders and territorial matters, based on article B (5) of the common agenda, as follows:

The parties will achieve the settlement of territorial matters and agreed definitive delimitation and demarcation of the international boundary between Jordan and Israel with reference to the boundary definition under the mandate, without prejudice to the status of any territories that came under Israeli military government control in 1967. Both parties will respect and comply with the above international boundary, preserve the peaceful coexistence along the boundary, creating a living, warm reality for the benefit of the people of both sides.

The following procedure is agreed, and is to be applied in the negotiations to be held in the region.

(A) — Agreement to establish a joint mechanism (a boundary sub-commission of the commission on security, boundaries, water, environment and other related issues), whose objective will be to assist in arriving at a settlement of borders and territorial matters.

(B) — The sub-commission will initially prescribe the modalities of preparing joint maps of the region of the boundary and any additional material, including, as appropriate, a joint survey for this purpose.

The joint maps shall be in English and shall reflect physical features of the areas along the boundaries between the two states.

(C) — The sub-commission will further advise the respective parties on the ways to reach agreement as to the process set forth in article B (5) of the common agenda.

(D) — Once agreement is reached the sub-commission will be responsible for the preparation of the procedures for delimitation and demarcation of the international boundary between Jordan and Israel, and will perform those tasks.

(E) The proposed mechanism will work in close conjunction with the security sub-commission in order to ensure that coordination takes place. This will facilitate more detailed discussions, taking place in parallel, on all issues pertaining to bilateral security arrangements on and in the areas close to the defined international boundary based on article B (5) of the common agenda.

(F) The negotiations on the mutually satisfactory solutions of the boundary issues will be finalised in a treaty of peace, as stipulated in Article C of the common agenda.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Majority of Israelis do not trust Rabin — poll

TEL AVIV (R) — A majority of Israelis do not trust Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's handling of peace talks with the Palestinians, a poll released on Friday said. The Hanoch Smith Research Centre survey found 54 per cent of Israelis questioned responded negatively when asked: "To what extent do you trust Yitzhak Rabin's handling of the continuation of negotiations with the Palestinians?" Nineteen per cent said they trusted Mr. Rabin very much, 18 per cent pretty much, 17 per cent not so much, 20 per cent did not trust him, 17 per cent did not trust him at all and nine per cent had no opinion. The telephone poll, conducted on June 5, solicited opinions from 505 Israeli Jews.

'Qadhafi offered Israel to reduce extremism'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi contacted Israel in 1990, offering to reduce his backing for "extremism" if Israel persuaded the United States to ease its sanctions against Libya, an Israeli newspaper reported Thursday. Israel shelved the offer, the Haaretz Daily said. Haaretz quoted a book called "The Big Misses — Political Opportunities and Chances for Peace that Israel Missed," just published by a former secret service agent, Rafi Sison. Colonel Qadhafi made the offer through an Israeli "economic figure," Haaretz quoted Mr. Sison as writing. He was looking for ways to lift sanctions imposed by the United States because he was harbouring suspects in the 1988 explosion of a Pan Am airplane over Lockerbie. Mr. Sison said the economic figure got the information to then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who referred it to Israel's secret service, the Mossad. The Mossad shelved it, Mr. Sison said. Mr. Shamir told Israel army radio he did not remember the case. "Muammar Qadhafi is known to be strange, a lot of strange things happen, but I don't remember this," he said.

10,000 to guard Arafat visit

TEL AVIV (AP) — Yasser Arafat will be greeted by an unusually heavy security detail of some 10,000 Israel police if he tries to visit Jerusalem later this month, Israeli Radio reported Friday. Mr. Arafat is expected after June 15 to visit the self-rule areas of Jericho in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. He is also likely to try to visit Jerusalem to pray at Muslim shrines and visit Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) headquarters. Israeli right-wingers opposed to peace-making with the PLO are planning massive protests for Mr. Arafat. "We are prepared for all possibilities while he (Arafat) is here, for protests that could occur... I believe we will have to concentrate a lot of forces," police chief Asaf Hefetz told the radio. He did not give figures, but the radio said a force of more than 10,000 would be stationed in the Jerusalem area. It said the size of the force was unprecedented for a visiting diplomat, noting that precincts in the Tel Aviv area and elsewhere would be nearly emptied. Jerusalem's right-wing dominated city council published an advertisement in Friday, newspapers urging Israelis to come and demonstrate against Mr. Arafat when he arrives.

'Israeli soldiers tortured animals in Gaza'

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The Israeli army has opened an inquiry into allegations from a soldier that his comrades tortured animals on the Gaza Strip, the military spokesman said Friday. A young conscript has accused soldiers based at the Jabalya refugee camp of killing a cat he had cared for. He complained to Israel's Let Animals Live society which took up the case with the authorities. Elyta Altman, spokeswoman for the society, said the soldier had related several torture cases including the cat he had rescued. "The other soldiers found him, cut his whiskers and played football with him before electrocuting him," Mr. Altman said. "Then they tied him to a plastic bag and threw him off an observation post." The soldier charged that officers ignored him. One officer trapped him, smashed it against the wall and skinned it with his penknife, he said. He said he had heard that his unit had a reputation for cruelty toward animals before being posted to Jabalya. "The word was the soldiers caught cats, cut out their eyes and put the eyeballs in jars," Mr. Altman said. She added that it was not the first report reaching the society "that soldiers used animals for target practice" during exercises. "I understand that combat soldiers need to wind down, but this is a very strange way of doing it," said Ms. Altman. Gaza military commander General Doron Almog ordered the investigation, the spokesman said.

Lebanese judge accuses 4 of killing U.N. soldier

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's military prosecutor accused four men of killing a U.N. peacekeeper in South Lebanon last week, Beirut's state-owned television station said on Friday. Tel. Liban said Judge Nassir Lahoud ordered a military investigation into the June 3 killing of a Fijian soldier and the wounding of another serving with the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in the southern village of Qana. Judge Lahoud ordered a judge to interrogate the suspects who are in custody. Security sources had said the peacekeepers in Qana were attacked by Hizbollah guerrillas after a fighter was killed in a shoot-out with a Fijian patrol. A Fijian soldier, wounded in the first clash, died four days later from his wound. It was not immediately known if the four suspects were Hizbollah members.

More fires consume Syria's grain fields

DAMASCUS (R) — A huge fire broke out in five Syrian fields in northern Syria and destroyed 8,400 square metres of cereals in the second fire this week in Syria's grain-growing area in the north, officials said on Friday. They said firefighters were called from nearby cities and oil companies operating in the area to help control the fires which raged all day on Thursday. The papers did not say what caused the fire but officials said sparks flying from moving machines caused fires in four grain fields during an intense heat wave earlier this week.

Arafat entry to Jericho to be decided on June 12

By Marianne M. Shalish
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A final decision as to when Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat will enter Jericho and Gaza may be taken by June 12, PLO officials in Tunis told the Jordan Times Friday.

"June 18 is again being floated, but apparently there will be a vote among Tunis-based members of the Palestinian National Authority on Sunday," said a Tunis-based PLO official, who asked to remain anonymous.

"The situation as it stands will be studied and a vote will be taken on when the leadership returns," said the PLO official. "There have been too many dates set and reset. It is utterly confusing."

PLO sources in Amman said in May that Mr. Arafat would not enter Jericho or Gaza before the convening of the conference of Organisation of

African Unity (OAU) in Tunis, set for June 13-15 which will be opened by South African President Nelson Mandela.

"This conference will be really important to President Arafat and he will want to attend it," said Saleh Raafat, the Amman-based representative of FIDA, the first Palestinian political party to be founded in the occupied territories after the Arab-Israeli peace talks began.

But observers in Tunis believe that Mr. Arafat's decision when to go to Jericho and Gaza will largely depend on aid given him by World Bank officials meeting with him in Paris.

The PLO chairman has warned that he would not go to Jericho and Gaza before promised financing for the rebuilding of Palestinian infrastructure is given to the PLO. European and other donor countries have said that they would need a system of accountability on how the money was spent.

Arafat is going to Jericho, but when?

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(AFP) — Arafat fever is soaring ever higher as the expected date of Palestinian leader's triumphant entry into Jericho nears, only to bring a fresh crop of predictions further delaying his return.

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij, a confidant of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, issued the latest clarification.

"Before the 19th of June," Mr. Freij declared Friday. And he should know, he is after all "minister" for tourism in the Palestinian National Authority.

West Bank PLO leader Faisal Husseini had his own estimate of the "second part of June."

At the end of May, everyone agreed it would be early June, well mid-June. June 15 to be precise, said Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal. However, do not hold your breath because they will not be the first, probably not even the

last, to be proved wrong.

Israeli and Palestinian leaders have confidently announced the forthcoming programme over and over again since they signed the declaration of principles for autonomy on Sept. 13.

October, November, December, January... June and he's still coming soon.

Mr. Arafat even threw a spanner in the works himself this week, warning that he would not be going anywhere unless donor countries stumped up a substantial amount of the cash they promised for self-rule.

"How can I enter my country when the money situation is terrible. I have to have something in hand to lift the burden off my struggling people," Mr. Arafat moaned.

Some voices questioned such tactics. After a life-time devoted to the fight to return home, surely Mr. Arafat should at least pay a fleeting visit now the gates are wide open.

A strong rumour spread that he did not want his big day overshadowed by World Cup football so it was either before June 17 or late July.

Kamal Mahmoud, a Jericho taxi driver, urged "the old man" to get a move on.

"Arafat shouldn't delay his arrival too long because we need to get things straightened out," he said.

"He must come to see everything on the ground, he is needed here."

Grocer Mahmoud Abu Al Hawa added: "We are used to changes in his schedules."

"Maybe Arafat is delaying for security reasons. I am sure he will get the international aid. It's just political talk that he is waiting for the funds."

Abdul Nasser Hussein, 21, a prisoner released Friday, predicted a huge turnout. "All the Palestinian people will come to see him."

But if Mr. Arafat delays much more he might even be dead, if certain Israelis have their way.

A former chief rabbi of Israel is spearheading calls to murder the chairman, claiming it is a religious duty for any self-respecting Jew.

"To kill Arafat is a religious commandment for everyone and for that it is not necessary to put him on trial," Rabbi Shlomo Goren said, accusing him of "responsibility for the death of hundreds of Israelis."

Former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon admitted regretting that Mr. Arafat had not been killed when Israeli troops had him in their sights after entering Beirut during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Far-right wing parliamentarian Hana Porat of the National Religious Party says he wants to put a bullet through Mr. Arafat's head.

Israeli police are taking no chances. Israel Radio reported plans to deploy 10,000 police — more than half the national force — in Jerusalem if Mr. Arafat is given the green light to visit the Holy City.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 Le Monde Sans Maria
18:00 Dossier De La Semaine
18:30 News in French
18:45 Ushuaia
19:00 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air
21:00 The Campbellells
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature Film: "Eyewitness to Murder"

PRAYER TIMES

03:50 Fajr
05:25 Sunrise
12:35 Dhuhr
16:15 Asr
19:45 Maghrib
21:50 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifield, Tel. 810740
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church, Tel. 634590
Church of the Annunciation, Tel. 637449
De La Salle Church, Tel. 661757
Terra Sancta Church, Tel. 623366
Church of the Annunciation, Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 625256

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328

Communion Evangelical Church Tel. 684195

The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 511295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Temperatures will rise slightly becoming around average with winds northeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

Amman 15 / 31

Aqaba 22 / 36

Deserts 14 / 33

Jordan Valley 20 / 35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 28, Aqaba 33 Humidity readings:

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDER

Amman 32 per cent, Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Maqbool Halasa 819220
Dr. Jamil Maraga 776149
Dr. Mohammad Al Jazal 752971
Dr. Shatawat Abu Zayed 773622
First pharmacy 661912
Perdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 669730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660
Najib pharmacy 847632

IRBID:
Dr. Mohammad Al Hiti 279773
Aqaba pharmacy (—)

ZARQA:
Dr. Ziyad J'aidin (—)
Khalil pharmacy 985417

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111

Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 642816

Rescue Police 192, 62111, 637199

Fire Brigade 891228

Blood Bank 775121

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 642816
Rescue Police 192, 62111, 637199
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Jabal Amman Municipality 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Shmeisani Hospital 845845
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musasher Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Musasher 7771013
Al-Basir, J. Ashrafieh 77511026
Army, Marka 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 62224050
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)83323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)80260
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)86372
Al-Hikmah Modern Hospital (09)999990
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)75555

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 51381332
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642816
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 6424172
Jabal Amman Municipality 843402
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 6661714
Shmeisani Hospital 845845
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musasher Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Musasher 7771013
Al-Basir, J. Ashrafieh 77511026
Army, Marka 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 62224050
Amal Hospital 674155

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
05:30 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)
09:45 New Delhi (RJ)
10:15 Athens, Athens (RJ)
10:15 Dhahran (RJ)
10:15 Abu Dhabi, Doha (RJ)
10:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
11:00 Beirut (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:30 Vienna (OA)
15:45 Rome, London (AS)
20:30 Cairo (MS)
20:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
23:25 Amsterdam (KL)

DEPARTURES

Royal



His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and other senior officials Thursday attend a ceremony marking the Arab Army Day (Petra photo)

Jordan marks Arab Army Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Kingdom Friday observed the anniversary of the founding of the Arab Army and the Great Arab Revolt against foreign domination led by Sharif Hussein Ben Ali, the Sharif of Mecca in 1916.

On the eve of the anniversary His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, attended a special celebration at Raghdan Palace where he presented medals to several officers in the armed forces, the public security, the general intelligence and civil defence, in recognition of their outstanding services and their distinguished performance.

Present at the ceremony were His Royal Highness

Crown Prince Hassan, Prince Abdullah, Prince Hashem, and Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shakir, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Gen. Abdul Hafez Mirai Al Kaabneh and other senior officials and high ranking army officers.

Following the ceremony, King Hussein visited the Martyrs Monument in Amman accompanied by Prince Hassan, Prince Abdullah and Prince Hashem and senior government, army and parliament officials.

Following the formal welcome ceremony which included a 21-gun salute, King Hussein recited verses of the Holy Koran, watered an olive

tree of the Martyrs Monument and signed a visitors register.

The ceremony was followed by a formal reception held at Al Hussein Youth City where the King met with well-wishers from the Armed Forces, the general intelligence, the public security and civil defence, as well as the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) stationed in Jordan and several military attaches at embassies in Amman.

King Hussein later attended a lunch hosted by Gen. Kaabneh at Al Hussein Youth City attended by members of the Royal Family and senior government officials and high ranking army officers.

On the anniversary, the King received cables of good wishes from head of various Jordanian organisations.

Gulf crisis compensation claimants expected to receive payments soon

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian claimants to compensation for death and injuries suffered in the Gulf crisis are expected to be paid soon following the approval of their applications by a Geneva-based U.N. panel, informed sources said Friday.

U.N. sources confirmed that the U.N. Compensation Committee had communicated to the Jordanian government on the acceptance and rejection of applications. They said the formal notifications were issued Wednesday.

Clear details of how many applications were accepted were not immediately available in Amman because of the two-day holiday weekend.

Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Nayef Hadid said the ministry had not received the U.N. notifications. But it was expected that the ministry would have the completed details as and when the government gets

back to work on Saturday.

According to the U.N. Compensation Committee, the bulk of the applications came from Jordanians and most the rest from Kuwaitis and Egyptians. But there were also applicants from many other countries although in limited numbers.

The committee announced in Geneva on Wednesday that it was paying out the first tranche of compensation to 670 claimants from 16 countries. The committee, which started its work in February, rejected 307 applications, including 11 from Americans.

A three-judge panel studied the processed applications and ruled acceptances and rejections. Its recommendations were adopted by the full committee.

Mohammad Milhem, a lawyer and member of an Amman-based centre which processed the applications before sending them to Geneva, said less than 200 of the accepted applications were from Jordanians. He did not have a figure on the

rejections. Yahya Al Otaibi, head of the centre, was in Geneva last week following up the claims, but he was not immediately available for comment.

A higher committee comprising several ministers and senior officials is directly in charge of the process of filing Jordanian applications and following up the matter with the U.N. Reports that this committee planned to appropriate a percentage of the settled claims could not be immediately confirmed.

All the beneficiaries belonged to Category B of victims, defined by the U.N. committee as those who were wounded or lost a family member of close relative by Iraqi actions during the invasion and the subsequent seven-month Iraqi occupation of the emirate.

The scale of compensation ranged between \$2,500 per individual up to \$10,000 for a family. The total amount involved in the first tranche of payment is \$2.7 million.

Category A covers those who were forced to flee Kuwait in the wake of the Iraqi invasion and occupation while Category C related to those who lost property in excess of \$100,000.

The U.N. committee estimates that it needs up to \$200 million to settle the claims. The body, set up after the liberation of Kuwait in February 1991, has less than \$30 million at its disposal, drawn from Iraqi capital abroad frozen under the sweeping international sanctions imposed against Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait.

According to reports, the committee has received up to 2.5 million claims, including nearly 70,000 from Jordanians. About 5,000 of the applications are from Category B.

The bulk of the Jordanian applications are in Category A. More than 300,000 Jordanians were forced out of Kuwait in the wake of the crisis.

It is expected that the U.N. Compensation Committee will have additional funds when Turkey pays 30 per cent of the proceeds from a one-time sale of Iraqi oil which remains in a closed pipeline that runs from Iraqi oil fields to a Turkish terminal in the Mediterranean.

Under a resolution adopted by the U.N. Security Council after the Gulf War, 30 per cent of all proceeds from Iraqi oil are supposed to be paid to the U.N. Compensation Fund for war reparations.

But Iraq is banned from exporting its oil under the embargo and Baghdad has refused to accept a U.N. offer to allow it a one-time sale of oil worth up to \$1.6 billion, 30 per cent of which will be channelled to the U.N. fund.

The U.S. State Department said in a statement on Wednesday that the committee "will turn to other types of individual claims over the coming months."

EU loans Kingdom \$13m for small, mid-size projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the Fourth European Union (EU)-Jordan Financial Protocol, the European Investment Bank (EIB), EU's financial institution, is advancing a dual loan package to the Industrial Development Bank (IDB), said an EU statement Thursday.

The package comprises a global loan for \$11.4 million, with interest subsidy, to provide medium-term financing for small and medium-sized Jordanian enterprises in industry and tourism, together with a \$2.28 million loan from risk capital resources to fund direct or indirect equity participations in same of these enterprises.

Both the two per cent interest-rate subsidy, on the global loan and the risk capital assistance (made available for 20 years and with repayment clauses linked to the performance of the ventures financed) are being funded from the EU, said the statement.

Since 1979, IDB has received nine loans from the EIB (including two from risk capital), totalling \$47 million.

This financing package constitutes the fourth operation mounted by the EIB under the Fourth EU-Jordan Financial Protocol (1992-1996).

It follows on from financing provided for rehabilitation of the Aqaba-Amman Desert Highway, water management schemes (Kafrein Dam, King Abdullah Canal) and, under EU-Mediterranean "horizontal financial cooperation," expansion of international telecommunications facilities with neighbouring countries and Europe.

Over the past five years, EIB financing in non-member Mediterranean countries has exceeded \$2.16 billion, of which \$84.93 million has been advanced in Jordan.

New T.V. station is only an idea — official

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The introduction of new television station to operate on a purely commercial basis is merely an idea that has not fully crystallised, and no steps towards implementing such a project have been taken, according to a government official.

The official, who preferred anonymity, told the Jordan Times Friday that the idea of forming another television station was supported by the public and private sectors, but at this stage it is only akin to the idea that calls for transforming the whole of the Aqaba region into a free trade zone.

Al Ra'i Arabic daily reported Friday that preparations will soon start for the

establishment of a television station in Jordan, to operate as a public shareholding company, with satellite telecasts to other Arab states.

According to the report, the new station would follow the example of the state-owned Jordan Television station in presenting programmes, news bulletins and commercials, and a highly trained staff would operate the new station.

When asked to comment on the report, Jordan Radio and Television Corporation Acting Director General Ibrahim Shahzadeh said that he had no knowledge of such a project. Establishing another station operating from Jordanian territory requires a special law. The present law allows only the state-owned corporation to operate from Jordan.

King congratulates Russia, Philippines

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday sent a cable to Russian President Boris Yeltsin congratulating him in his name and on behalf of Jordan's people and government on Russia's national day. The King wished the Russian people continued good health and happiness and the Russian people further progress and prosperity. King Hussein also sent a cable to President Fidel Ramos of the Philippines congratulating him on his country's independence day, and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the people of the Philippines further progress and prosperity.

Meeting to clear obscurities in application of sales tax

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Amman Chamber of Industry Sunday will convene a general meeting of industrialists and directors general of the Income Tax and Customs departments to look into ways of implementing the Sales Tax Law which came into effect on June 1, 1994.

A spokesman for the chamber told the Jordan Times Friday that the meeting was motivated by numerous requests from businessmen wishing to become familiar with the law and its applications.

In endorsing the law on

May 18, Parliament had reduced a government proposal 10 per cent sales tax on most items to seven per cent, and government officials said that the expected revenues from tax in the 1994 budget are the same as the actual income from the consumption tax collected in 1993, that is, a total of JD 170 million.

Items classified as luxury products carry up to 20 per cent tax under the new law.

The Chamber of Industry said that it convened an initial meeting last week attended by industrial and concerned government officials.

It also prepared a list of

queries for the directors of the income tax and customs departments to be answered at Sunday's meeting.

Chamber Director Walid Al Khatib told the Jordan Times that the industrialists and businesspersons are interested in reaching an acceptable formula for the application of the new Sales Tax Law.

Sunday's meeting, added Mr. Khatib, should clear up obscurities in the new law.

Parliament's endorsement of the Sales Tax Law met a basic requirement by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which is supervising the economic restructuring programme of Jordan.

Municipality starts digging traffic tunnel to ease congestion on University Road

By Rana Hussein

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Amman Municipality Wednesday started work on a new traffic tunnel at Al Ra'i intersection on the University Road, according to Salem Sawalha, the managing engineer of the project.

Mr. Sawalha told the Jordan Times that the tunnel is designed to reduce heavy traffic on this major thoroughfare.

"About 8,000 vehicles per hour use this intersection during rush hours, and the municipality saw an urgent need to build a tunnel to decrease congestion," he said.

He added that construction

teams will work on shifts to keep the project running 24-hours-a-day to finish the undertaking quickly.

"We aim at shortening the period and increasing our working hours to lessen the difficulties that area residents and motorists suffer because of the detours," Mr. Sawalha told the Jordan Times.

He said the tunnel should reduce traffic congestion at that crossing by allowing motorists to avoid the traffic lights if their route is direct towards the university or towards Medina Circle.

Motorists driving to or from Al Rashid, Rawda and Thar Al Ali will have to remain on the regular road, stopping for traffic lights at

the redesigned intersection. According to Mr. Sawalha, the project, which costs approximately JD 350,000 is expected to finish within 60 days.

"Normally, similar projects take at least six months, but we plan to finish as soon as possible," he said.

Earlier in March, the municipality announced plans to add a new segment to the overpass at the Ministry of Interior. This plan, according to Mayor Mamdouh Al Abbadi, would cost JD 1 million.

The mayor had said that the municipality was revising its plans and estimates before accepting a reasonable offer.

WHAT'S GOING ON

- ★ Oud Recital: by Munir Bashir at the Royal Cultural Centre, at 8:00 p.m. Tickets JD 5. Proceeds will go to support the work of the Cancer Research Campaign. For information call Royal Jordanian Gliding Club 891401 (253) or Friends of Archaeology 696682.
- ★ Exhibition of traditional embroidery and handicrafts at Al Hayat Group showroom, Gardens Street, Elyan Building (Tel. 687956).
- ★ Painting exhibition by Jordanian artist Abdel Ra'uf Sham'un at Darat Al Fannun of the Abdel Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Lweideh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by artist Muhammad Al Ameri entitled "Body" at Baladina Art Gallery (Tel. 687598).
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Fatima El-Helw at Goethe-Institut.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY / OFFICE MANAGER AND EXPERIENCED CLINICAL ASSOCIATES

Heart surgeon opening a clinic in Amman invites qualified applicants to submit resumes for consideration for the following positions:

Executive Secretary Office Manager

Must be fluent in English and Arabic, Typing, basic computer operations, command of MS. DOS, Microsoft Windows requires.

Cardiovascular clinical Associates

1. Qualified assistant Surgeon to first assist in open heart operations.
2. Experiences Nurse Specialist to participate in pre and post operative patient care.

salaries commensurate with experience.

Please submit resumes to:
Mr. William Burke
Fax # (404) 265-4952
Atlanta, Georgia
U.S.A.

Disi feasibility

(Continued from page 10)

Jordan pumps around 70 to 75 million cubic metres from the aquifer, mainly for agriculture, but also for domestic consumption and industrial purposes in Aqaba and other small towns in the area, according to Haiste/Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick, which is working under a grant from the British government's Overseas Development Authority (ODA).

Several major industries are located in the south. These include a fertiliser plant and a thermal power station in addition to several other projects expected to be operational by 1996.

The British firm did not provide a definite figure for the reserves at the aquifer but implicitly acknowledged the problems posed by the Saudi pumping, saying "an unknown element that will influence decisions will be the future amount of use by Saudi Arabia of the same aquifer."

Sbammay Puri, the consultants' project manager of the study, said the estimates of the reserves of the aquifer would be provided in the final stage of the study, which is expected to be completed before the end of the year. "However, we have established that another 75 to 75 million cubic metres could be pumped from Disi in addition

to the present 70 to 70 million cubic metres," he told the Jordan Times.

The consultants, in an interim report released at a presentation at the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ), said "significant water resources are present in the Rum (Disi) aquifer."

"Although the resource is large and of good quality, it will have a limited life span," the report said. "Its development must therefore be carried out with great caution and within the framework of a national water strategy."

It suggested the "eventual redeployment of the water from its present use for agriculture to municipal demands."

"This can be done gradually, hand in hand with a modest new scheme which will pump more water from the aquifer," it said, adding that "double the amount being pumped from could be taken in the immediate future."

Several options have been studied, but the final strategy should be based on a decision as to the envisaged period of pumping from the aquifer, it said, adding "at present the planning horizons chosen are: 10 years to the future, 50 years and 100 years."

The ODA has provided around £3.1 million in equipment and material to finance the Haiste/Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick study.

and Mudawara, northwards as far as Ras Al Naqah and Jafr, up to the Saudi border, said a fact sheet provided by the consultants.

"The planned total drilling metreage is 15,300 metres of boreholes at 24 locations," it said. "Around 12,000 metres have been completed so far."

"Testing work includes pumping water from these boreholes, some to depths (of) 1,500 metres, and carrying out sophisticated measurements, using computer-controlled loggers and instruments. Pumping tests are awaited at most test sites."



L'image

Studio & Photo Finishing Laboratory
Gardens Street (Wasfi Tall St.) Tel 693939
Building No. 137

Welcome you to visit our premises and enjoy our excellent photographic studios, and highly advanced photo finishing technology, with the best quality and competitive prices.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephone: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Jordanian Perspective

Reshuffle reflects new emphasis on peace process

By Dr. Musa Kellani

THE RESHUFFLE that Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali carried out last week was one of Jordan's major steps towards devoting full attention to peace negotiations with Israel now that the Jewish state has dropped its stalling tactics and agreed to discuss the thorny issues of border demarcation and water rights.

The changes established Dr. Majali's ability to exercise political flexibility and hindsight whenever needed, after having adopted a strong position against including members of Parliament in his government, first when he formed the Cabinet in May 1993 and again when he carried out a limited reshuffle in November.

By bringing in heavyweight politicians like Thouqan Hindawi and Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh along with eight other members of Parliament, Dr. Majali has managed to make his government more representative and reduce tension with Parliament. Of course that does not mean that it would be smooth sailing for the government all the way in Parliament, particularly that the blocs in the Lower House are not exactly very happy with the individual approaches that Dr. Majali adopted in sounding out and enlisting deputies into his Cabinet.

Now, with the exception of the Islamic Action Front (IAF), the cabinet includes all shades of the political spectrum present in Parliament. The so-called Zaid Rifai and Mudar Badran factions are also in, and the north has no longer any reason to complain of a scaled-down presence in the executive authority, with Dr. Hindawi, Mr. Rawabdeh, Yousef Dalabih, Hisham Al Tai and Saleh Irshaidat occupying key positions in the cabinet.

Other independent and influential politicians with proven records opted not to join the government and the reasons for their absence could be traced to considerations related to the fast pace in the peace process. However, the very fact that they were offered the opportunity to join the executive authority should help smoothen the differences between Parliament and government that marked the last one year in office of Dr. Majali (in my own parlance, I would describe those who refrained from joining the cabinet as the Kingdom's key "reserves," to be drawn upon as and when the need arises).

Any scrutiny of the new government would not be complete without acknowledging the presence of several key figures in the cabinet with unblemished records in their public service. These include Mr. Dalabih, who served as His Royal Highness

Crown Prince Hassan's military secretary; Adel Qudah, who held no punches back in challenging inefficiencies in financial administration as head of the Audit Bureau, the Customs Department and the Income Tax Department, Talal Ureikat, a career military officer and former personal secretary to the Crown Prince; and Jumna Hammad, a highly respected journalist and former member of the Upper House of Parliament known for his logical, unbiased approach to issues. They represent not only an additional asset to the image of the government but also a reassuring factor to Dr. Majali on streamlining the internal front. The creation of a new portfolio for administrative development and the appointment of Mohammad Thuneibat, head of the Institute of Public Administration, to head that ministry as minister of state underlined the determination of the government to press ahead with the complicated and difficult task of administrative reform.

Quite interestingly, the appointment of Ziad Fariz, the veteran planning minister whose contribution to resurrecting the Jordanian economy after its collapse in 1988-89, as an advisor to Crown Prince Hassan strengthens the parallel economic team in the Royal Palace. Dr. Fariz's presence in the team along with Mohammad Saqqaf and Ahmad Mango should enable the Crown Prince to keep a close eye on the economic course of the country on a day-to-day basis.

The very composition of the economic team advising the Crown Prince should be an answer in itself to critics who have raised their eyebrows at the present economic team in the government despite the record of the success of Finance Minister Sami Gammoh in streamlining the fiscal budget and successfully pushing the sales tax law through Parliament in unwavering adherence to the economic restructuring programme agreed with the International Monetary Fund.

Indeed the sales tax itself was controversial and wide hostilities have been generated against the levy in the local scene. But that should not be any reflection on Mr. Gammoh. In my reading, opposition to the law was entrenched in the public mind much before Dr. Majali took office one year ago, and it was an uphill battle all the way for his economic team to convince the public and Parliament that there was no escape from the levy in the first place and that it was not as bad as it sounded with the added background clamour of arguments that market prices were going to shoot up and punish the poor. The market situation since the law went into force early this

month belies arguments.

Critics of the government also seem to overlook the fact that now we have Hisham Al Khatib as planning minister. Dr. Khatib's abilities in financial administration and efficiency in confronting adverse situations as well as negotiating capabilities have been proved time and again. And there is little reason to expect that his performance in meeting the challenges of Jordanian economic planning would be any less impressive than that of his predecessor, Dr. Fariz.

Apart from reduced tension with and bedrock support in Parliament, the presence of experienced politicians and executives like Dr. Hindawi and Mr. Rawabdeh should make it easy for Dr. Majali to relieve himself of preoccupations with the internal situation and devote all his efforts and energy to the crucial phase of negotiations with Israel that is looming in the horizon after last week's agreements in Washington to set up committees to demarcate the borders, negotiate water-sharing formulas and explore economic cooperation projects.

No doubt, the new cabinet line-up reflects a determination of the Jordanian leadership to press ahead with the objectives of the mandate given to Dr. Majali when he was first appointed prime minister one year ago. But, now that one of the major tasks assigned to it, conducting fair and free general elections, has been successfully completed seven months ago, it was high time that the executive authority was strengthened towards the most challenging and difficult task of wrenching Jordan's national rights from Israel through negotiations.

Needless to say, the reshuffle gave priority to the peace process and strengthened the band of the government in dealing with the exigencies of the peace process at a time when Jordan can ill-afford any delay in pressing ahead. The Kingdom waited for others to make progress in their tracks of negotiations with Israel and as soon as that was achieved it went ahead with sorting out the key issues on its table with the Jewish state.

However, the progress that was achieved in Washington last week does not mean that Jordan was on the verge of a peace treaty with Israel. Despite the widespread speculation on the local scene that that is indeed the case, it is naive and unreasonable to expect Jordan to abandon its long-held principle and go for a unilateral peace accord with the Jewish state without waiting for the other parties involved in the peace negotiations launched in Madrid in 1991. Quite simply, it is against Jordan's national interests that are held above everything else by our leadership.

Wider base, new team

THE RESHUFFLED cabinet of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali appears to be stronger than the former cabinet for the simple reason that it comprises "elements" from Parliament. The importance of this new character of the Majali government cannot but be emphasised since the exclusion of deputies from the former cabinet had weakened its mandate to make national decisions on issues that matter most in these trying times. The prime minister had hitherto adhered to the principle of separating the executive from the legislative branch by literally keeping out parliamentarians from his government. Hard-won experiences during the past few months have obviously convinced the prime minister that there could be no easy and absolute separation between the three principal branches of government.

But this is not all that is new about the newly assembled cabinet. The inclusion of the parliamentarian group, headed by Mr. Thouqan Al Hindawi, the new deputy prime minister, is also an important feature in view of the political clout that Mr. Hindawi and his colleagues from the Lower House enjoy both within Parliament as well as outside it. With the issues of peace pressing ever harder on the doors of the Kingdom, Dr. Majali needed as wide parliamentarian and public support as he can muster. With the new deputy prime minister slated to deal with most of the pressing domestic issues, the door is kept wide open for the prime minister to occupy himself even more with the nitty gritty aspects of the peace process especially now that Jordan and Israel have in fact reached a critical cross-roads in their bilateral peace talks.

The overall picture that is now emerging from the new government is one that promises more determined and coherent efforts on both the external and internal fronts. The need for well coordinated policy on both fronts cannot but be underscored in this particular era facing the country. We cannot pursue an effective foreign policy with regard to the peace process or otherwise without enjoying an equally effective internal policy, including of course the further development of the democratic process. In the forefront of the issues that still await resolution on the domestic front is of course the proposed new election law that should aim to give additional credibility to parliamentary democracy that was ushered in 1989.

The economy of the country has still a long way to go before it can stand on its own two feet. The challenges facing us are indeed formidable and have as such necessitated a wider based cabinet. Whether this new base is broad enough is something that only time can tell.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic daily expressed pessimism over the new reshuffled government of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, but he said that he was waiting to see if the new ministers would live up to some people's expectations. Bassam Emoush, an Islamic Action Front deputy, said the Jordanian people want to see the government unrelenting to foreign pressure, honouring what is right and fighting corruption and upholding sublime ideals pertaining to education and Islamic religion. The writer said he wanted to see the government pursuing efforts to put an end to misconduct on the part of many people in key positions and to maintain a high level of consultations with the legislative authority in all matters related to domestic and foreign affairs. Attacking some of the deputies who accepted Cabinet portfolios without naming any one, the writer said that it was shameful that these deputies have never concealed their desire to become ministers. Indeed, he said, those people had run in the elections in the first place for the sole purpose of becoming ministers one day.

WHAT JORDAN achieved in the trilateral meetings in Washington is but a start and it remains to be seen whether the Israelis will honour their commitment to demarcate the borders with the Kingdom and settle the water problem on a fair basis, said Al Dustour daily. The paper said some Jordanians believe the breakthrough in the Arab-Israeli negotiations marks a major turning point in the Arab-Israeli negotiations and would lead to further successes along the other Arab-Israeli tracks. But it should be noted here that the success was a very limited step and people want to see something materialising on the ground, said the daily. It would not be surprising to us to see Israel trying to escape from the commitments it made in Washington by trying to stall and manoeuvre as the Jewish state could be trying to reap the lion's share of benefits of peace, added the paper. It said that it is premature to talk of optimism about successful projects executed through Jordanian-Israeli cooperation in the Jordan Valley because one should first wait for the first steps to be taken in the coming month regarding borders and water sharing. One has to wait and see, added the paper, whether Israel will be transforming its declared good intentions into facts on the ground.

M. KAHIL



THE WEEK IN PRINT

Fresh talks with Israel right step to serve the Kingdom's interests

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

DEVELOPMENTS in the peace process, the situation in Yemen and domestic issues were addressed by the local Arabic daily press in the past week.

Under the title of "Along the Path of a Comprehensive Solution," Al Ra'i Arabic daily said the achievements accomplished along the Jordanian-Israeli track would not be crowned by a peace treaty without a pan-Arab endorsement of an overall Arab-Israeli settlement that can restore Arab rights. The Israeli consent to demarcate the borders with Jordan is only part of the demands made by the Arab parties to the peace negotiations, added the paper.

The Jordanian government did well in resuming the talks with Israel so that the negotiations would not remain deadlocked with the U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher conducting futile shuttle diplomacy between the capitals of the region, said Taher Al Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour.

In view of reports about progress on the Israeli-Syrian track, Jordan has all the right to seek to ensure its own national interests and solve its outstanding problems resulting from Israel's occupation of Arab land, added the writer.

Mahmoud Al Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said while Arab parties claim they are coordinating their positions in the peace negotiations, they are doing nothing to prevent Israel from pursuing its attacks on Lebanese territory. The writer said that what is the point of having coordination to reach peace

with Israel, which is intent on continuing its war against the Arabs. For its part, Jordan linked its continued participation in the peace process to the lifting of the siege on Aqaba. Why can't the Lebanese and the Syrians link their own position to halting all Israeli attacks on Lebanese territory to ensure their resumption of the peace talks? he asked.

Supporting the government's move to open talks with Israel over territory and water sharing issues, Sultan Al Hattab, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said that Jordan should shoulder serious responsibility and should force ahead with plans to ensure the return of lost lands and rights. The writer said that in light of the poor level of coordination the Palestinians are bawling with Jordan, the Jordanian government has no alternative but to move ahead with its talks so that it would not be left lagging behind. He said Jordan has a very narrow space for manoeuvre and should seize every opportunity to safeguard its national rights.

The negotiations with Israel was the topic tackled also by Fahed Al Fanek, a columnist in Al Ra'i, who said Jordan would not sign a separate peace treaty with Israel unless a comprehensive settlement has been reached. But, he said, the government should make its conditions for peace very clear to the Jordanian public and the Arab masses. The government did well in openly decrying the poor level of coordination with the other Arab parties to the peace talks but now Jordan should make its demands clear, just like Syria did when it defined its condi-

tions and the Palestinians who have accomplished their first step towards statehood, added the writer. Dr. Fanek said that there is no such thing as coordination among Arab parties and claims to the contrary are an attempt to escape making decisions in this crucial matter.

Samir Habashneh, a columnist in Al Ra'i, welcomed genuine coordination between Jordan, Syria and Lebanon in the face of Israel's procrastinations and ill intentions. For the past four decades, we have been hearing calls and slogans for coordination among the Arab countries around Israel but nothing has materialised, he said. We would like to see Syria, Jordan and Lebanon taking steps leading to economic integration as an initial stage to be followed by other steps towards regaining all usurped Arab rights and water, said the writer.

Referring to the Israeli raids on Lebanon, Mohammad Kawash, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that by striking the Lebanese resistance, the Israelis are pursuing their war on Lebanon. He said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin hopes to appease the Israeli opposition, which rebelled against his handling over the Gaza and Jericho regions to the Palestinians, added the writer. The writer said the Israelis want to make it clear to the Syrians that their demands for full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan and the Lebanese territories would not receive a favourable response in Israel.

These views were echoed by another Al Dustour columnist, who said that by raid-

ing Hizbollah positions, Mr. Rabin is dealing a blow to the Israeli opposition which has been objecting to his agreements with the Palestinians. Saleh Al Qallab said that by flexing Israel's military muscles, Mr. Rabin is telling the opposition that Israeli might can and will protect Israel's interests regardless of the autonomy rule in parts of Palestine.

For his part, Tareq Masarweh said that raiding Hizbollah positions was part of Israel's campaign to pressure Syria into returning to the negotiating table. The columnist said that by raiding Lebanese territory close to Syria and by massing troops near the border with Lebanon, Israel is showing its determination to its confrontation with Syria in order to prevent the Syrians from regaining the Golan Heights.

Nabil Al Sharif, a writer in Al Dustour, said that only Qatar out of all the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council has decided to refrain from signing the final statement concerning the situation in Yemen out of its keenness to preserve the unity of that country. The writer said that Qatar has shown a brave standing in the face of an overwhelming support for southern Yemen on the part of the Gulf Cooperation Council states. It was, he said, similar to its stand when it chose to rebuild bridges with Iraq in the wake of the Gulf war. The writer said Qatar has realised before other partners in the council that it is of paramount importance to seek unity among Arab countries and reject any move leading to the weakening and disintegration of the Arab World.

Africa needs to stand on its own feet

By Francis Mdlongwa
Reuter

HARARE — African states have seized the initiative in a bid to end Rwanda's bloodshed after what some see as dithering by Western countries preoccupied by their own problems.

Political commentators say the Africans have awakened to the fact that in the post-cold war era, they must offer solutions to the continent's crises themselves.

"Non-Africans are not prepared for a long haul in subduing an African conflict and are certainly not prepared to accept casualties," Zimbabwe's Herald newspaper said Saturday.

It recalled that the United States and other Western states pulled out of the United Nations peacekeeping force in Somalia earlier this year after rag-tag militiamen inflicted casualties on them.

The Herald was commenting after 14 African nations from Benin in the west to Botswana in the south resolved to send troops to halt carnage in Rwanda that has killed 500,000 people.

The 14 met in Zimbabwe's capital Harare to review the continent's economic woes and political issues after the demise of apartheid in South Africa, which for decades preoccupied many of them.

Nelson Mandela, elected South Africa's first black president in April after three centuries of white domination, attended the twin summits, giving them a moral fillip.

"Mandela, as head of Afri-

ca's richest nation now finally free, certainly gave weight to the meetings which by all accounts were very successful," an African diplomat said.

The Organisation of African Unity (OAU), which holds its annual summit in Tunis next week, has tried unsuccessfully since its founding in 1963 to assemble a force that would intervene in crises such as those in Rwanda, Somalia, Liberia and Angola.

"The OAU's main handicaps have been lack of financial resources and the fear by some states that such a force could be used against them," a Western analyst said.

"But with increasing demands for good governance and political changes since the end of the cold war, the need for such a force couldn't be greater and Africa is in the spotlight," he said.

The Herald said that the West, led by Washington, had little vital interests in the world's poorest continent.

"We can still save lives in Rwanda and the United Nations, using the African troops now offered, must do this and do it quickly," it said. "We must never let such genocide ever happen again in Africa."

Aid agencies say 500,000 Rwandans have been slaughtered in a war pitting the majority Hutus against the minority Tutsis.

An African diplomat said the West was concerned with its own domestic problems, especially trying to revive economies that were moving too slowly out of recession.

LETTERS

'You shall not love'

To the Editor:

JORDAN TELEVISION Channel 2 is feeding us nearly every day with the most cruel and criminal movies; killing, kidnapping, battered women, terror, horror, in all varieties. It seems that there is nothing else in the world, especially in the Western world, and particularly in America.

And when there is one of the more enjoyable films, where people fall in love, and express their feelings for each other by kissing and hugging, these scenes are cut, censored by people who feel they have to "protect" the citizens from immoral behaviour.

It seems that for those responsible the most important commandment is not "you shall not kill", but "you shall not love".

Also I find it very humiliating that there are people deciding what I should see or not see. I am an adult with perfectly normal moral standards, with a functioning brain, so far, and I can judge for myself what kind of movies I want to see. I have the ability to choose the right movies, and do not need censors to tell me what to see.

What kind of democracy is that, where people never get the chance to develop their thinking and mature. There is no respect if people are treated like stupid creatures who have to swallow what others chewed for them.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

Heidi Masarweh,
Amman.

مكتبة ليل

Jordan has clear vision on Syria ties

(Continued from page 1)

Israeli economic agreement. But Jordan, though welcoming closer ties with the two Arab states, said solid and practical steps should govern the approach to the proposal.

Other sources, who expected Syria to push for the proposal, said Jordan will not enter the alliance if it will be directed against any third party or will impact that impression. They said Jordan will not want it to be exclusive to the countries which launch it under certain political circumstances.

Informal sources said His Majesty King Hussein and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad spoke of the need for "higher level of economic and political cooperation" between the two countries during their summit in Damascus last month. But they would not confirm news reports that the two leaders

discussed the formation of an economic alliance.

"The desire for closer ties and coordination with all Arab states is a constant of the policy of Jordan," a well-informed source told the Jordan Times. But, he added, "fast steps based on emotions would not be the way to do it." Other sources added that Jordan will want any alliances open to all Arab parties who might show interest in joining it.

In addition, the sources said, Jordan will want to guarantee the success of any institutionalised form of cooperation by first preparing the ground work for it.

The sources also pointed to the regional political environment which they said might hamper the success or even the launch of a formal Jordanian-Syrian-Lebanese economic

alliance. They said that some of "Syria's allies in the region, mainly the Gulf countries, might not be supportive of the concept," noting that some of these countries stopped their aid to the Kingdom when Amman and Damascus took serious steps towards integration in the late 1970s. They also noted the antagonism with which these states received the Arab Cooperation Council before it collapsed in the aftermath of the Gulf crisis.

Saturday's meeting of the Jordanian-Syrian committee will be the country's first since the Gulf crisis. In the meeting, the two countries are expected to discuss trade relations, joint projects, and the trade balance which tilts towards Damascus.

A Syrian economic team held talks with Jordanian officials over trade and economic issues last month.

287 Palestinians freed but confined to Jericho

(Continued from page 1)

their local Israeli military office in the occupied West Bank to process papers before returning home.

The document bars the holder from entering Israel proper.

"I don't think Jericho should be a dumping ground for the prisoners," said Saeb Erekat, "minister" of local government in the new Palestinian authority.

Under the May 4 Israel-PLO agreement to implement autonomy, Israel agreed to release up to 5,000 of the 9,000 Palestinian prisoners in its jails within nine weeks. Those belonging to factions opposed to the agreement or convicted of killing or injuring Israelis will not be freed.

Also agreed was that Palestinians serving life terms for killing other Palestinians would be released into autonomous areas, either in Gaza or Jericho.

The PLO has agreed that 128 others sentenced to life terms will remain in Jericho under the agreement, but the prisoners themselves are unhappy.

"I feel bad, because I cannot go home," said Jamil Ashad Hamamdeh, 27, of the Black Panther militant which is loyal to Yasser Arafat's Fatah wing of the PLO. Mr. Hamamdeh lives in Kabatha, about 60 kilometres north of Jericho, near the West Bank town of Jenin.

The provision that prisoners convicted of violent crimes serve out their sentences in the autonomous areas sparked protests earlier in the week when prisoners had to sign papers saying they would respect that

provision and support the agreement.

In an open letter they accused PLO leaders of neglecting them.

Clashes over prisoner releases erupted in the West Bank town of Nablus Friday, with protesters demanding a general amnesty throwing rocks at police who responded with tear-gas. No injuries were reported.

However, the atmosphere outside the police headquarters was jubilant as cars poured in from the West Bank and formed queues to see the prisoners.

A busload of women and children waving Palestinian flags and cheering arrived at restaurant waiters bustled back and forth, carrying food to prisoners seated outdoors.

Israel Radio reported that 13 more prisoners, not in the 287, had been allowed to return to their West Bank homes.

On Thursday, Israel released 177 prisoners on the Gaza Strip. It was the first time Palestinians who faced life in jail were allowed out.

However, none had killed Israelis, Palestinian officials said. Some had killed Palestinians and attacked Israelis. All pledged to renounce violence and not to oppose the peace process.

Ibrahimi, Yemen envoy arrive

(Continued from page 1)

President Saleh, Jordan Television (JTV) reported.

Mr. Ghanem told JTV that the message dealt with the latest developments in Yemen and means of halting the war, and to "seek a way to fully implement the (U.N.) Security Council resolution which preserves the unity of Yemeni territories."

He said his visit to Jordan was part of an Arab tour to brief Arab leaders on the situation in Yemen.

Mr. Ghanem has already visited Damascus.

The Yemeni envoy blamed the war in Yemen on the leaders of the southern Yemeni Socialist Party "who rebelled against the Yemeni leadership in order to declare their secession."

The Yemeni leadership, he asserted, has welcomed the Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire although it believed that the resolution was an interference in Yemen's internal affairs.

He said that the Yemeni leadership "support dialogue for solving the crisis, but only with members of the Yemeni Socialist Party who believe in national unity and democracy."

"It will be difficult to talk with those elements who do not believe in unity and who had declared secession," he said, in an apparent reference to southern leader Ali Saleh Al Beidh.

IAEA penalises North Korea

(Continued from page 1)

Korea's rejection of inspections and urged it to open all of its nuclear sites.

Following the vote, North Korean envoy Yun Ho Jin said his country would not allow any more IAEA inspections. He said the agency's two inspectors currently in North Korea would be asked to leave immediately.

"We will not allow any of the verification activity, which is now under way," the envoy said.

The United States and Russia agreed Friday to cooperate on a motion calling for United Nations sanctions against North Korea.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said after talks with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev in Istanbul that a resolution to that effect would be presented to the U.N. Security Council "in the next few days." The two met in Istanbul on the fringe of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) talks on establishing a partnership with Russia.

Japanese Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa meanwhile prepared to head for Seoul and Beijing to sound out the Chinese on the crisis. But even before he left, Chinese President Jiang Zemin categorically refused to impose economic sanctions on its ally.

"It is necessary to deal patiently with such a complicated issue," Mr. Jiang told Japan's NHK television. "There is still room left for dialogue. China is opposed to sanctions which could bring about grave consequences." He indicated the crisis should be settled by dialogue.

In Tokyo, Japanese and

U.S. officials agreed to meet for U.N. Security Council on economic sanctions against Pyongyang. The accord was reached at a meeting between Japanese Foreign Minister, Hironaka and U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Peter Tarnoff, in PLO Press said.

Pyeongyang said it will not accept any imposition of sanctions proven an act of war and has said this threatened to withdraw from the nuclear non-proliferation Treaty for a second time.

Russia has been slow to throw wholehearted support behind punitive international sanctions and has launched the idea of an international conference to debate the issue among delegations from the two Koreas, Russia, the United States and the United Nations.

Mr. Christopher said U.S. President Bill Clinton had discussed the matter with Russian counterpart Boris Yeltsin by telephone and confirmed both countries' intent to pursue a two-pronged strategy comprising the threat of sanctions as well as an international conference.

A White House official said meanwhile former President Jimmy Carter's trip to North Korea next week is a private one and he will not be carrying a message about the current nuclear problem from the U.S. government.

But the administration has discussed the trip with Mr. Carter, the official added.

"Carter is on a private visit" at the invitation of the Pyongyang government, the official said.

"We have discussed North Korea with him, but he is not an envoy."

No economic project with Israel

(Continued from page 1)

Christians and should be open to all monotheistic religions.

However, Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have agreed to negotiate the status of Jerusalem in the final status talks due to take place within three years after the interim period of Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Like the issue of Jerusalem, the Palestinian refugee question was also postponed for final status negotiations between the PLO and Israel.

Jerusalem and refugees were not discussed during the two days of meetings in Washington but it did not mean that Jordan has abandoned these two pending questions, Dr. Anani said.

"The issue of Palestinian refugees is of grave concern to us," Dr. Anani said, noting that the largest Palestinian refugee community, according to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), was residing in the Kingdom. "Since most of them carry Jordanian citizenships, their future status must be clear before signing a peace treaty with Israel," Dr. Anani said.

PLO gets \$42 m

(Continued from page 1)

United States, the European Union, Russia, Japan, Canada and Saudi Arabia. Associated members and the PLO, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, the United Nations and the World Bank.

The Israeli delegation said in a statement that "Israel insisted during the talks that Jerusalem should not be mentioned as the seat of the Palestinian Economic Council for Reconstruction and Development (PECDAR), although that was the Palestinians' intention."

Instead, it was agreed that PECDAR offices would open in Gaza and Jericho, and the opening of other offices could only be decided by common agreement.

Dr. Shaath, chief negotiator of last month's self-rule accord and the new Palestinian authority's "finance minister," said it was decided to leave the issue of Jerusalem to be discussed by the two parties elsewhere in the light of their peace accords.

Delegates said the Israelis promised to grant 10,000 extra permits for Palestinians to work in the Jewish state, in addition to the 35,000 currently authorised.

However, that was a far cry from the free movement of labour sought by the Palestinians, and from the roughly 120,000 Palestinians who worked in Israel before restrictions were enforced for "security reasons" last year.

U.N. envoy pursues bid

(Continued from page 1)

remained within Yemeni borders, other Arab states are widely believed to be backing both sides with weaponry and financing for military supplies.

Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states resent northern Yemeni leaders' pro-Iraqi stances in the 1991 Gulf war but at the same time do not want to see a prolonged conflict trigger refugee flows and other humanitarian crises at their doorstep.

Military and diplomatic sources in Sanaa note that northern and southern forces appear to be overstretching and exhausting themselves and neither appears able to secure a decisive victory.

Refugee issue will be solved in final status

(Continued from page 10)

Saleh said the agency's Peace Implementation Programme, which was launched after the signing of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accord in Washington in September, was intended to improve infrastructure in schools and health clinics, create jobs and improve sanitation infrastructure inside refugee camps.

Mr. Kurtzer said that donor, sponsor and other countries involved in the multilateral talks on refugees such as Jordan, Canada, the European Union and the United Nations, and the World Bank were asked to "bring experience, expertise and resources to bear on the problems of the region."

Mr. Saleh said that donors had thus far "given firm pledges" of \$86 million to

wards the peace implementation programme.

Mr. Kurtzer said that while the bilateral talks were intended to lead to a political solution between Israelis, Palestinians and the Arab states hosting refugees, the multilateral talks were intended to create a "mechanism the material conditions in which the Palestinian refugees find themselves — the way they live, the way they eat, the way they educate their children and the way they can or cannot compete for jobs."

"Neither solution, neither the practical nor the political, would properly work without the other. It's the merging of the two, the practical and the political, that makes this peace process look like it's going to be successful over time," concluded Mr. Kurtzer.

PLO state of affairs delays Jordan accord

(Continued from page 1)

there were no problems or misunderstandings regarding the agreement.

"Signing the agreement with Jordan is more urgent than ever. Any procrastination will be harmful to both sides, I see no reason for any delay," he said.

Abu Alaa's statement clearly reflects the differences within the upper echelons of the PLO as well as the increasing frustration with the state of general indecision.

One problem that seems to cause the delay is while Abu Alaa has reached the draft agreement, it is Mr. Kaddoumi who will sign it and could even negotiate modifications with Jordan.

That was the case when Abu Alaa reached the broader economic cooperation with Jordan in November. It was not until January that Mr. Kaddoumi signed it after negotiating modifications with Jordan.

The apparent differences and overlapping of roles of PLO officials reflect the state of affairs in the PLO after the signing of the Oslo accord, which was negotiated by Abu Alaa without the knowledge of Mr. Kaddoumi, the PLO foreign minister and co-founder of the Fatah mainstream movement.

Since then Mr. Kaddoumi has taken a more active role in economic negotiations in his capacity as the PLO's foreign minister and acting

president of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR).

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat appointed Mr. Kaddoumi to the post in spite of the latter's declared opposition to the Oslo accords, partly to counter the rising influence of both Mahmoud Abbas, the architect of the accord, and Abu Alaa.

Mr. Kaddoumi has been using the post, according to analysts, to influence the course of negotiations with the Israelis and the World Bank in an attempt to contain what he views as negative repercussions of the flaws in the accords.

Accordingly Mr. Kaddoumi considers the fact that the Paris economic agreement with Israel did not lead to a customs union with the Jewish state and considered the shekel one of the currencies used, and not the major one as a Palestinian gain that paves the way for closer coordination with Jordan — as a factor to enhance prospects for future Palestinian sovereignty. But it is also obvious that Mr. Kaddoumi and other officials are seeking what they perceive as parity in relations with the Kingdom.

The interpretations that the Jordan Times obtained from Jordanian sources and Palestinian officials immediately after last month's resolutions in Amman con-

tradict Mr. Kaddoumi's definition of the role of the joint monetary committee. However, the wording of the draft agreement itself seems to be vague on defining the committee's role as it refers in general to joint coordination on supervision and licensing of financial institutions and banks.

What seems to be more problematic is the Jordanian proposal for the Palestinian authority to open an account at the CBJ. While the reservations on the proposal stem from concern that such a step could give Jordan "political leverage" over the Palestinian authority, Jordanian sources had immediately dismissed such doubts, especially that the agreement also includes a proposal that the Jordanian government opens an account with the proposed Palestinian monetary authority.

Meanwhile, the agreement with Jordan is pending and no date has been set for Mr. Kaddoumi's visit to Jordan. As with all other important issues, the leadership appears to be awaiting a decision by Mr. Arafat, who has not been discussing his future plans with most of his colleagues who in turn have been waiting for him to recover from a sharp flu and make up his mind about how to deal with the many pending questions.

However, most PLO officials here believe that differences with Jordan could be solved once talks with the Kingdom begin.

Jordanians to be evacuated from Aden

(Continued from page 10)

If the ship, which has a 1,600-passenger capacity, is unable to dock at Aden's port, it will remain offshore in Yemen's territorial waters. Smaller boats will then be used to bring the evacuees to the bigger ship, an operation that is expected to take two days, the IOM said.

Chartered Jordanian planes brought home nearly 1,000 Jordanians from Yemen after the breakout of the civil war. Others have come home aboard the erratic flights oper-

ated by other airlines and a few were ferried to Djibouti from where they flew home.

The IOM issued an urgent appeal last month for \$355,000 to finance the evacuation and has received \$120,000 from Germany and \$50,000 from Britain.

The agency, set up in 1951, is the main international body concerned with migration, arranging the movement of refugees and migrants to new homes. Jordan is an observer-member of the agency.

Iraqi pipeline deal

(Continued from page 10)

the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) had failed, he acknowledged.

"The statement was interpreted by some circles as if it was a call to divide or break up Iraq which we categorically

deny," he said, addressing his latest call to Iraq's people, the opposition and "concerned governments" in the area.

U.N. missile inspectors headed for Baghdad on Friday to tag Iraqi missile systems as part of a long-term monitoring and verification programme.

DON'T CALL US. WE'LL CALL YOU.

That's a promise...

...only we can deliver. Because at Gulf Express we confirm the delivery of all documents and parcels without you having to ask.

We deliver you more !

- * From our Amman office we are linked to 180 offices worldwide through an on line computer network.
- * Hand - to - hand fast deliveries across the world.
- * Constant tracking of all deliveries.

So next time you want a confirmed delivery, call us. We'll deliver. Then we'll confirm.

GULF WORLDWIDE EXPRESS
SKYNET NETWORK

ON TIME, EVERYTIME - CONFIRMED.

Tel : 616795 - 616796 - 617500 FAX: 652834

UNITED NATIONS
Economic and Social Commission
for Western Asia (ESCWA)



الأمم المتحدة
اللجنة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية
لغربي آسيا (الإسكوا)

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) has a requirement for additional office space totalling approximately 600 square metres (useable office space) within a single building, preferably located in or near the Shmeisani area.

The rental will be for a one year period with an option to extend for a second year. Preferences will be given to facilities offered which require minimal renovations prior to occupancy.

Proposals should be submitted in sealed envelopes to:

Procurement Unit (3rd floor)
United Nations ESCWA
Abdel Hamid Sharaf No. 28
Shmeisani, Amman.

Proposals should be received at ESCWA no later than 15 June, 1994.

Proposals must include the address of the structure, a description of the available space with floor plans, total square metres and the price per square metre. Also, if any services are included in the lease price such as maintenance and/or cleaning services, a description of the services should be included.

Delors calls for world economic security council

BRUSSELS (AFP) — Jacques Delors, chief executive of the European Union (EU), has called for the creation of an economic security council to promote world economic stability.

Mr. Delors, president of the European Commission, said the council would be needed to coordinate global management of economic problems.

He was speaking at the end of a three-day session of the Commission of Global Governance, a body comprising 28 men and women established by world leaders in 1992 to study global cooperation following the end of the cold war.

Mr. Delors identified the growing swell of world capital movements as a particular threat to economic stability and sustainable economic growth.

"If the rationale of the capital market goes against the interests of the global neighbourhood, who can react?" he asked at a press conference.

Mr. Delors's answer was an economic security council com-

prising the United States, Japan, the EU, China, Russia and countries heading regional economic organisations in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific.

He proposes that such a council meet regularly with representatives of such institutions as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the International Labour Organisation.

"We cannot go on talking about the global and the world economy without knowing how to tackle the problem," Mr. Delors said.

He stressed the need to take a global view of a world economy becoming ever more unified, and to establish links between "trade, currencies, finance, the environment and population growth."

Mr. Delors said that the international capital market had to bear much of the blame for the current rise in long-term interest rates.

Pakistan reports recovery from setbacks

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Pakistan has recovered from serious economic setbacks to achieve four per cent growth in its gross domestic product (GDP) during fiscal 1993-94, ending June 30, the government has said.

Growth, which had slumped to a record low of 2.28 per cent in 1992-93, has been revived despite shortfalls in cotton and wheat production, it said in an economic survey.

The document has been released ahead of the announcement of the next national budget by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's eight-month old government.

Ms. Bhutto has promised a tough budget with new taxation to generate 15 billion rupees (\$500 million) mainly through a general sales tax.

Bnt, she has said there would be no significant increase in defence spending and that her government would meet International Monetary Fund advice to reduce the budget deficit to six per cent of GDP, down from nine per cent previously.

The survey attributed the economic revival to restoration of political stability, a reference to last year's political crisis that saw the fall of former prime minister Nawaz Sharif.

It said the structural reforms by the Bhutto administration had covered "considerable mileage" toward macro-economic stability.

According to the survey, Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves have risen to \$2.1 billion from a dismal \$461 million in the previous year.

A "steep" decline of 15.72 per cent in major crops during 1992-93 had been "almost arrested" in 1993-94.

Exports fell by more than three per cent, mainly due to decline in cotton production for the second year in a row, but a 12 per cent increase in imports will help "improve" the balance of trade, the report said.

Industrial investment in the manufacturing sector increased by 15.08 per cent during 1993-94. Foreign portfolio investment witnessed an increase of 270.98 per cent.

The process of privatisation and economic deregulation has been "widened and strengthened," the survey said.

A number of country funds have been established abroad for investment in Pakistan.

These funds have been sponsored by American Citibank, Hongkong and Credit Lyonnais, a French bank based in Hong Kong.

The survey said the stock market in the country "has remained in a bullish mood," with the foreign investment inflow increasing to \$417.2 million during July-March from \$263.9 million during the same period last year.

The country's petroleum imports during July-March in the outgoing year amounted to \$1,052.6 million, down from \$1,136.1 million in the same period of the previous fiscal year.

Pakistan's own daily average oil production during 1993-94 stood at 57,880 barrels and that of natural gas at 1,724 MMCFD.

Yeltsin announces economic decrees

MOSCOW (AFP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin Friday opened the doors to wider foreign banking activity in Russia, announcing a decree on improvements to the Russian banking system.

"Russian bankers are going to strongly criticise the president, because it will start real competition," he told reporters here.

"I think the cautious and progressive implication of foreign banks in our financial life will bring the system back to life and push down our interest rates," he said.

Mr. Yeltsin launched new social policy initiatives to create affordable housing, fight crime and poverty, protect citizens against dishonest businessmen and poor banking practices.

He announced the series of decrees completing a first wave of economic measures issued last month at a news conference marking the third anniversary of his election to the presidency.

The new initiatives were aimed at alleviating the country's housing crisis, by granting citizens special loans to buy apartments and offering special incentives to private construction firms to build more housing.

"Housing is too expensive for the majority of people. The state must offer prospects for these people," Mr. Yeltsin said.

The Russian leader announced the establishment of a new national programme to fight poverty which he said would be directly responsible to the presidency.

He said 25 per cent of the Russian population lived below the poverty line while an additional 20 to 30 per cent was on the verge of falling under the minimum level to subsist.

The Russian president also said he would participate in writing the final communiqué of the Group of Seven summit in Naples, Italy, in July proving that "the political Group of Eight is already formed," he said.

Mr. Yeltsin has been pushing for the past two years to join the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations. Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United States have been cautious about admitting Russia as a member.

"One can't say that the Group of Eight is completely formed, but one can say that the political Group of Eight is already formed," he said.

Mr. Yeltsin said he would take part in the day of political discussions at the Group of Seven summit taking place from July 8 to 10 in Naples and in the writing of the political declaration.

However he would "take absolutely no part" in economic discussions.

Mr. Yeltsin said he "would hope" to be able to sign a partnership agreement with the European Union at its summit taking place in Corfu, Greece, June 24 and 25.

"I will leave (Moscow) for 24 hours to go to Corfu and I will sign (the accord) if it is ready, as I hope," he said.

An agreement will allow Russia to "create a stable European market" and represent a first step to future Russian membership of the European Union, Mr. Yeltsin said.

"We are following the procedure for joining the European Union. None of the 12 (EU members) deny that Russia has the right to be there, because it is a great European power," Mr. Yeltsin said.

Study: Japanese cities still most expensive

GENEVA (R) — The Japanese cities of Tokyo and Osaka are still by far the world's most expensive places to live, with Moscow in third place, according to a Swiss study.

The report, by the Geneva-based Corporate Resources Group, measures the cost of living in various cities across the globe via a basket of 155 goods and services.

With New York (ranked in 19th place) taken as a national

100-point basis, Tokyo scores 207 points on the index and Osaka 194.

Moscow, a new convert to capitalism, ranks third on 133 points, ahead of Buenos Aires, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Zurich and Geneva.

"The currency changes and price movements during the past year have made the majority of European cities less expensive compared to New York one year ago," the statement said.

The cheapest city of the 100 list is Harare, Zimbabwe, at 68 points.

The authors of the study said the difference between the cost of living between Japanese and other cities had been exaggerated by the recent strength of the Japanese yen.

"The greatest disparities are still within Asia with Tokyo at 207, the world's most expensive city and New Delhi at 70, slightly ahead of Harare as the least

expensive," they said.

Libreville and Brazzaville were ranked third and fourth in the worldwide rankings one year ago behind Tokyo and Osaka.

"The situation has changed dramatically following the important devaluation of the CFA franc," the group said.

The index for Libreville is now 101 (against 137), while for Brazzaville it is now 102 (from 134).

Weekly analysis of movements, trends of major world currencies

This report, which covers the week from Thursday, June 2, 94 to Wednesday June 8, 94, is provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merrill Lynch — Dubai.

Overview

Fundamental View: The dollar's potential to rally significantly appears to be limited by concerns about deterioration in the U.S. balance of payments, while the threat of large-scale control bank intervention limits the dollar's downside. U.S. policymakers still appear to favour a firm dollar to curb inflation, even though administration officials continue to give mixed signals about how aggressively they will seek trade concessions from Japan.

We continue to look for the dollar to trade in relatively narrow ranges of USD/DM 1.60-1.70 and USD/JPY 100-110 for most of this year. Longer term, we continue to expect the dollar to weaken to the USD/JPY 95 yen level under the weight of persistently large Japanese current account surpluses and weak private sector capital outflows from Japan.

Technical View: The U.S. dollar index managed to post its fourth consecutive weekly gain aided by the strength against the Deutschmark, Swiss franc, Japanese yen and British pound. Momentum measures continue to be oversold for the dollar index and in the beginning stages of bottoming process especially among the four currencies mentioned above.

Although the dollar index is encountering problems with short-term resistance levels at 93.52, the ability to break decisively through 93.00 would suggest that the bottom-building process is under way. A move above 95.50 would confirm the breakout. Overall, we continue to suggest that the U.S. dollar should be in the beginning stages of preparing for a summer rally. Support for the dollar index exists at 91.20 and 90.30.

Japanese yen

Fundamental View: Market participants continue to be quite sensitive to every move in U.S.-Japan trade relations, but there is little doubt that top U.S. policymakers have made a decision to put financial market stability ahead of trade goals for the time being. That said, U.S. trade officials still have a tendency to lapse into combative rhetoric on U.S.-Japan trade issues that has the potential to rattle currency markets. U.S. and Japanese policy appears aimed now at stabilising the dollar in the USD/JPY

100-110 range. But the yen could prove to be difficult to stabilise because of Japan's financial problems and the sheer size of Japan's current account imbalance. Even with the recent hike in U.S. interest rates and low overnight rates in Japan, it is not clear that Japanese investors are willing or able to finance the imbalance after having suffered large losses on their foreign domestic investments in recent years.

Thus, persistent dollar-buying efforts by the central banks may be needed for some time to come to keep the yen from breaking through the JPY/USD 100 level. We continue to expect Japan to post a current account surplus of more than \$125 billion this year. We expect the weight of that surplus, relative to underlying private sector capital flows, to eventually push the dollar toward our 12-month target of 95 yen.

Technical View: The Japanese yen fell 0.81 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended June 3. Moreover, the yen is encountering difficulty with nearby resistance levels of 102. This was also a previous resistance level in late 1993. Sentiment figures have now remained neutral for the past three weeks. Short term momentum measures continue to show signs of bottoming, but have thus far failed as the yen lost leverage over the past month.

Although the yen might encounter some strength over the near term, it seems, due to the medium term momentum deterioration that the yen is setting up for further weakness over the summer months. For now support exists between 106-112. Benchmark resistance remains at 97-98.

Deutschmark

Fundamental View: The positive tone of the U.S. bond market relative to European bond markets appears to have helped the dollar firm against the Deutschmark in recent days. But the relatively high level of real interest rates in Europe could limit the dollar's potential to rally in view of the large impact of cross border bond flows on currency markets. We still expect year from 0.8 per cent to 1.2 per cent, which suggests that German officials interest rates are likely to decline only one more time in this cycle.

We now expect German 3-month rates to fall to 4.5 per cent by this time next year versus our previous expectation of 4.1 per cent. On balance, we continue to expect the dollar to remain in the DM 1.60-1.70 range for most of the next year and maintain our 12-month target of DM/USD 1.70.

Technical View: The Deutschmark lost 1.35 per cent against the

U.S. dollar last week and was the weakest of the six currencies we monitor most regularly. Despite this weakness, the mark has now traded in a range between 1.63-1.67 DM/USD over the past month two months. Sentiment numbers remain overbought. Short term momentum measures have deteriorated once again.

All of this suggests that any short term strength may be temporary and that the final pieces to a top are forming. For now, support is at 1.695 with second support levels between 1.72-1.73. First resistance levels are 1.63-1.64, with second resistance at last October's highs near 1.59.

Pound sterling

Fundamental View: The British pound rose with the U.S. dollar against the German mark in the past week, to DM/GBP 2.52, placing it at the top of the DM/GBP 2.47-2.52 range that it has held since the end of March. However, the dollar rallied more than the pound, causing the pound to trade slightly lower against the dollar at U.S.\$/GBP 1.51. In the near-term, political instability and a turbulent bond market may limit pound appreciation against the mark. A major focus for the pound will be the European election. A Tory defeat is widely expected and this will increase pressure on John Major to resign as prime minister. In the longer-term, the pound should be able to benefit from a rising short-term rate premium against the mark.

We believe that U.K. base rates have bottomed, but we think they are unlikely to be raised this year because we foresee no upward pressure on inflation in light of significant spare capacity. A modest uptick in U.K. short-term rates coupled with a series of German repo rate cuts should lead the pound up to DM/GBP 2.55 in 12 months. We expect the pound to trade at U.S.\$/GBP 1.50 in 12 months as pound appreciation against the DM is roughly offset by DM depreciation against the dollar.

Technical View: The British pound lost 0.26 per cent versus the U.S. dollar last week and has now rallied 3.22 per cent over the past two months. Sentiment has now moved into overbought from previous neutral readings. This coupled with the inability to break above overhead resistance of 1.52 U.S.\$/GBP and second resistance at \$1.55 would suggest that the pound is prone to some weakness in coming days. Moreover, medium term momentum measures continue to show very little definition. Due to the lack of definition, our parameters remain unchanged. Nearby support is \$1.46, with second support at \$1.43.

Foreign Office: Britain is largest European investor in Asia

LONDON (AFP) — Britain is the largest European investor in Asia and receives the largest share of Asian investment in Europe, Foreign Office Minister Alastair Goodlad has said.

"Last year British exports to the region were worth over £14 billion — an increase of 27 per cent on 1992," he told British businessmen, detailing that Britain came first in invisible exports and second in visible exports.

British exports to Thailand rose by 40 per cent and to China by a hefty 72 per cent, he said.

"Twenty years ago, Hong Kong's income per capita was only half that of Britain. Today it is higher," he said, adding that Singapore now had the same per capita income as Britain.

"Taiwan's rapid industrialisation has brought its income per capita to over \$10,000 per annum, higher than in either Portugal or Greece," he said.

"In 1993, the average GDP growth for the region as a whole was over six per cent. Most countries reported growth of between five and 10 per cent. China — an amazing 13 per cent," he pointed out. "By comparison, Europe's performance in the same period was less than one per cent."

He said the Foreign Office planned to set up new offices in Pusan, Korea and Nagoya, Japan and that the government planned to increase British exports to Japan from £2.65 billion in 1993 to £3.5 billion by 1996.

Mr. Goodlad added: "Compared to many other parts of the world, the Asia-Pacific region is peaceful."

"Consensus within the region, and outside it, is that it is vital for the United States to remain fully engaged to act as a balance and a deterrent. There is every indication that they intend to do so," he pointed out.

THE BETTER HALF By Glasbergen

Peanuts

Andy Capp

Mutt'n'Jeff

Horoscope not received

THE Daily Crossword by Al Becker

ACROSS

- Platane, il.
- Sword
- Physiologist
- Consume
- Ball room
- Locust
- With just enough to get by
- Join up: var.
- Kind of dance
- Hint
- Verne's captain
- Meaner
- Angle bones
- Like some wit
- Royal headwear
- Elevator name
- Neatly
- Witt novel
- Certain cager
- Bird of prey's weapon
- 40 — majesty
- 41 —
- 42 —
- 43 —
- 44 —
- 45 —
- 46 —
- 47 —
- 48 —
- 49 —
- 50 —
- 51 —
- 52 —
- 53 —
- 54 —
- 55 —
- 56 —
- 57 —
- 58 —
- 59 —
- 60 —
- 61 —
- 62 —
- 63 —
- 64 —
- 65 —
- 66 —
- 67 —
- 68 —
- 69 —
- 70 —
- 71 —
- 72 —
- 73 —
- 74 —
- 75 —
- 76 —
- 77 —
- 78 —
- 79 —
- 80 —
- 81 —
- 82 —
- 83 —
- 84 —
- 85 —
- 86 —
- 87 —
- 88 —
- 89 —
- 90 —
- 91 —
- 92 —
- 93 —
- 94 —
- 95 —
- 96 —
- 97 —
- 98 —
- 99 —
- 100 —

DOWN

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45
- 46
- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52
- 53
- 54
- 55
- 56
- 57
- 58
- 59
- 60
- 61
- 62
- 63
- 64
- 65
- 66
- 67
- 68
- 69
- 70
- 71
- 72
- 73
- 74
- 75
- 76
- 77
- 78
- 79
- 80
- 81
- 82
- 83
- 84
- 85
- 86
- 87
- 88
- 89
- 90
- 91
- 92
- 93
- 94
- 95
- 96
- 97
- 98
- 99
- 100

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. PLATANE, IL. 2. SWORD 3. PHYSIOLOGIST 4. CONSUME 5. BALL ROOM 6. LOCUST 7. WITH JUST ENOUGH TO GET BY 8. JOIN UP: VAR. 9. KIND OF DANCE 10. HINT 11. VERNE'S CAPTAIN 12. MEANER 13. ANGLE BONES 14. LIKE SOME WIT 15. ROYAL HEADWEAR 16. ELEVATOR NAME 17. NEATLY 18. WITT NOVEL 19. CERTAIN CAGER 20. BIRD OF PREY'S WEAPON 21. 40 — MAJESTY 22. 41 — 23. 42 — 24. 43 — 25. 44 — 26. 45 — 27. 46 — 28. 47 — 29. 48 — 30. 49 — 31. 50 — 32. 51 — 33. 52 — 34. 53 — 35. 54 — 36. 55 — 37. 56 — 38. 57 — 39. 58 — 40. 59 — 41. 60 — 42. 61 — 43. 62 — 44. 63 — 45. 64 — 46. 65 — 47. 66 — 48. 67 — 49. 68 — 50. 69 — 51. 70 — 52. 71 — 53. 72 — 54. 73 — 55. 74 — 56. 75 — 57. 76 — 58. 77 — 59. 78 — 60. 79 — 61. 80 — 62. 81 — 63. 82 — 64. 83 — 65. 84 — 66. 85 — 67. 86 — 68. 87 — 69. 88 — 70. 89 — 71. 90 — 72. 91 — 73. 92 — 74. 93 — 75. 94 — 76. 95 — 77. 96 — 78. 97 — 79. 98 — 80. 99 — 81. 100 —

مكتبة في الجبل

Soccer-economic form may be clue to World Cup success

LONDON (R) — Throw away the form-book, forget the injury problems — the serious soccer fans can now pick the country which will win the 1994 World Cup by analysing not its sporting but its economic prowess.

Swiss Bank Corporation (SBC), in a light-hearted publication ahead of the World Cup which kicks off next week in the United States, examined whether there was a link between success in soccer and economic fortunes.

"We tentatively conclude," the bank said.

Its researches suggested that countries that had fared well in past World Cups had gone on to enjoy improved economic success as well.

SBC looked at countries in the two biggest footballing continents — Europe and Latin America — chose the best soccer nations and came up with some interesting pointers.

Argentina and Uruguay, for instance, have long been among South America's highest per capita gross domestic product (GDP) economies and both have a history of strong soccer performances.

"Colombia is another interesting example," said Jim Nye, head of global research at SBC in London.

"Although they have a limited track record in soccer, in recent years their performance has improved markedly — incidentally (or perhaps not)

at the same time as the economy was starting to improve considerably.

SBC also noted the relative decline of Brazil. In the mid to late 1970s Brazil had one of the better-performing economies, and were supreme on the field.

"But gradually the (economic) gap between Argentina and Brazil has widened. The same of course has happened in football," Mr. O'Neill said.

Europe too provided examples.

"What can be seen in terms of per capita GDP is that gaps have got bigger, with England in marked decline relative to Germany," said SBC.

"In this regard the remarkable contrasting fortunes of these two countries is that Germany has gone from strength to strength in football, whilst England, at least at the national level, has gone into decline," SBC noted.

Germany won the last cup in 1990, while England this time have failed even to qualify.

Of course, a country does not have to be good at soccer to have economic success — or vice versa. The United States and Japan, the two biggest economies in the world, have until recently shown little interest in the game.

Japan have failed to qualify for the finals, and the United States, although the host nation, are scarcely one of the favourites.

But with its economy now powering out of recession, who knows?

Parliament passes Syria's '94 budget

DAMASCUS (AP) — Parliament has approved the government's 1994 budget of 144.162 billion Syrian pounds (\$6.27 billion) with expenditure increased by around 8.6 per cent.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency said the new budget listed expenditure of 76.2 billion pounds (\$3.31 billion), compared to 61.27 billion pounds (\$2.66 billion) in 1993.

The official exchange rate is 23 pounds to the dollar.

The budget, presented to the People's Assembly by Finance Minister Khalid Mahani, earmarked 42.06 per cent of current expenditure for defence — nearly 33 billion pounds (\$1.5 billion) and about the same as last year.

Russia is reported to have agreed to write off most of Syria's \$10 billion military debt, which Moscow inherited from the now defunct Soviet Union.

The remainder will be covered in hard cash payments to the financially strapped Russians by unidentified Arab states — believed to be Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

According to published figures, expenditure for this year is more than double the 1990 level.

According to U.S. officials, Syria's economy has grown seven to eight per cent annually since 1990, when Damascus joined the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq, its main Arab rival.

Oil production has risen to around 580,000 barrels a day, with half that exported for hard currency. Agricultural crops have improved greatly.

The government is slowly opening up the state-controlled economy after decades of tight socialist centralisation.

Figures provided by the state-run investment bureau in Damascus show that 970 economic projects worth nearly \$4 billion have been approved under law 10, liberalising legislation passed in May 1991 and designed to attract foreign

investment.

But despite law 10, cornerstone of the government's economic reform strategy, Western investors remain cautious, concerned about Syria's outmoded infrastructure and other factors.

Before the budget was presented to parliament May 17, President Hafez Assad announced a 30 per cent increase in public-sector wages.

The budget also listed a 50 per cent increase in energy allowances. Those and the wage hike totalled 18 billion pounds (\$782.6 million).

Some 68 billion pounds (\$2.95 billion) — about half the total spending — has been earmarked for development in the new budget.

The government seeks to create 70,376 jobs in the administrative and economic sectors in this nation of 17 million people.

Mr. Mahani said the government was giving priority to investment to establish new power stations worth 67.30 billion pounds (\$2.9 billion).

This is part of Syria's urgent drive to end chronic electricity shortages that have weakened the long-moribund economy and caused daily blackouts in Damascus and other cities.

The budget estimated domestic revenues at 97.9 billion pounds (\$4.2 billion), compared to 80.124 billion pounds (\$3.5 billion) last year.

External revenues were pegged at 24.53 billion pounds (\$1.06 billion), compared to 31.868 billion pounds (\$1.38 billion) last year.

The proportion of total revenues funded by foreign and domestic loans remains virtually unchanged at 27 per cent.

In the past two years, Syria has secured almost \$4 billion in aid, mainly from the Gulf states and international agencies, to finance infrastructure and industrial projects.

Much of this was President Assad's reward for joining the anti-Iraq coalition in 1990.

Trading, prices shrink at AFM

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Turnover at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) registered a sharp decline last week with a weekly volume of JD 4.8 million compared with the previous week's JD12.3 million, figures released by the market showed.

The general price index of 100 points based on the shares of 60 major companies traded in the market also dropped to 152.24 points, reflecting a decline of 1.02 per cent.

Brokers attributed the decline partly to investor apathy and partly to the see-sawing prospects of international aid flowing to the Palestinian self-authority after Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat publicly complained about the delays in the funds being actually allocated.

The performance of the AFM sharply contradicted expectations that the bourse was on its way up after a several-week stagnation. The JD12.3 million turnover for the week ending June 2 represented an 83.6 per cent rise over the previous week, giving rise to hopes that the slump in the market was over.

The jump was attributed partly to investor enthusiasm after a week-long 'Eid Al Adha' holiday and better indications that Jordanian companies will have a share in the economic rebuilding of the occupied territories under the Israeli-Palestinian autonomy agreement.

But Mr. Arafat's pointed comments that the donor community and the World Bank were slow in sending funds to the Palestinian self-rule authority and statements attributed to unidentified PLO officials that the donors were attaching "impossible conditions" to the aid had taken their toll on the AFM, observers said.

"The inference simple," said a broker, "People believe that the flow of international funds to the self-rule areas is vital for the launching of construction and infrastructure projects. The more the funds are delayed, the less investor interest in Jordanian companies seen as having the potential of tapping the self-rule market."

In general, share prices at the AFM have declined by four to five per cent since the beginning of the year.

Jordanian investors are prone to "overreacting to regional events" — as one observer put it — and base their speculative moves on short-term developments, brokers say.

The AFM figures for last week showed that 1.88 million shares changed hands during the week under 3,786 contracts.

The banking sector accounted for JD1.9 million of the turnover, followed by industrial stock with JD1.51 million, the services sector with JD400,000 and insurance stock with JD111,250.

Trading worth JD909,600 in the parallel market of fresh stock raised the total to JD4.8 million.

The banking sector index dropped by 0.74 per cent to 160.23 points, the insurance sector index by 0.5 per cent to 147.09 points, the industrial sector index by 1.63 points to 137.5 points and the services sector index by 0.43 per cent to 144.45 points.


Shares of 87 companies were traded during the week, with 23 of them showing gains, 48 losing and 16 remaining stable.

Many investors were also abstaining from the market pending the outcome of last month's discussions between Jordan and the PLO on economic cooperation between the Kingdom and the Palestinian autonomous territories.

Brokers have been saying that trading stood to lose more if concrete signs of institutionalised Jordan-PLO economic cooperation were not forthcoming.

"However, an improvement could be expected this week with signs that the government and Lloyds Register are about to conclude an agreement" on placing a sanctions-verification regime at Aqaba, said a banking official.

"Investors will be quick to grab the opportunity to acquire stocks of importers and distributors who stand to reduce their imports costs as a result of the Lloyds presence at Aqaba," noted the banker.



Astahan أستحان

Grand Opening

The finest antiquities from the heritage of the Middle East & Persia

Specialty: Medical Center & Health Ministry

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

WEEKLY REPORT

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	PROV. CLOSING PRICE	OFFERING CLOSING PRICE
ABAS BANK	224,500	187,000	187,000
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	100,500	7,500	7,500
ABAS BANK	7,115	9,400	9,400
ABAS BANK	51,406	3,818	3,130
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	120,452	2,004	2,004
THE JORDANIAN BANK	64,750	5,818	5,818
JORDAN REALTY BANK	176,852	3,130	3,130
JORDAN TRADING BANK	11,772	1,990	1,990
JORDAN TRADING BANK	51,700	1,200	1,200
JORDAN TRADING BANK	407,574	4,030	4,030
JORDAN TRADING BANK	2,500	4,030	4,030
JORDAN TRADING BANK	10,421	3,900	3,900
JORDAN TRADING BANK	8,504	9,000	9,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	11,071	9,000	9,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	215,794	1,064	1,064
JORDAN TRADING BANK	423	4,250	4,250
JORDAN TRADING BANK	134,465	2,004	2,004
JORDAN TRADING BANK	60,115	3,500	3,500
JORDAN TRADING BANK	27,422	3,000	3,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	47,420	2,004	2,004
JORDAN TRADING BANK	152,880	2,004	2,004
JORDAN TRADING BANK	3,900	4,000	4,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	2,125	4,000	4,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	16,440	4,700	4,700
JORDAN TRADING BANK	42,050	2,416	2,416
JORDAN TRADING BANK	3,458	4,000	4,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	52,048	4,070	4,070
JORDAN TRADING BANK	6,920	1,950	1,950
JORDAN TRADING BANK	21,044	1,950	1,950
JORDAN TRADING BANK	1,469	1,950	1,950
JORDAN TRADING BANK	324	1,295	1,295
JORDAN TRADING BANK	798	1,800	1,800
JORDAN TRADING BANK	8,040	14,400	15,200
JORDAN TRADING BANK	29,005	1,950	2,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	27,576	2,950	2,950
JORDAN TRADING BANK	15,720	2,950	2,950
JORDAN TRADING BANK	28,106	20,000	20,500
JORDAN TRADING BANK	13,932	1,500	1,500
JORDAN TRADING BANK	175,452	2,000	2,100
JORDAN TRADING BANK	5,911	3,000	3,170
JORDAN TRADING BANK	52,452	10,750	10,750
JORDAN TRADING BANK	1,750	7,150	7,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	623	2,400	1,500
JORDAN TRADING BANK	22,795	2,400	2,400
JORDAN TRADING BANK	11,795	11,400	11,200
JORDAN TRADING BANK	92,904	7,000	7,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	1,000	4,300	4,300
JORDAN TRADING BANK	200	2,150	2,150
JORDAN TRADING BANK	22,230	2,820	2,820
JORDAN TRADING BANK	2,952	3,950	3,950
JORDAN TRADING BANK	6,000	19,500	19,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	14,920	2,110	2,100
JORDAN TRADING BANK	9,515	4,450	4,450
JORDAN TRADING BANK	62,197	4,000	4,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	950,950	11,400	11,750
JORDAN TRADING BANK	82,710	1,400	1,400
JORDAN TRADING BANK	44,720	8,320	8,500
JORDAN TRADING BANK	20,364	1,000	1,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	9,151	2,900	2,900
JORDAN TRADING BANK	2,587	0,900	0,900
JORDAN TRADING BANK	29,142	4,100	4,200
JORDAN TRADING BANK	48,054	2,100	2,100
JORDAN TRADING BANK	92,150	2,010	2,020
JORDAN TRADING BANK	20,280	4,000	4,500
JORDAN TRADING BANK	22,503	5,500	5,500
JORDAN TRADING BANK	70,710	2,110	2,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	3,219	0,300	0,310
JORDAN TRADING BANK	19,700	4,200	4,200
JORDAN TRADING BANK	92,875	1,000	1,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	9,079	0,900	0,900
JORDAN TRADING BANK	21,950	1,000	1,000
JORDAN TRADING BANK	10,993	0,700	0,700
JORDAN TRADING BANK	905	0,810	1,010
JORDAN TRADING BANK	12,710	7,500	7,500
JORDAN TRADING BANK	137,194	4,000	4,000
GRAND TOTAL	5,730,061		

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (01/06/1994 - 02/06/1994)

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	PROV. CLOSING PRICE	OFFERING CLOSING PRICE
CENTRAL GENERAL TRADING & STORAGE	97,027	1,000	1,050
JORDAN TRADING BANK	50,875	0,100	0,120
JORDAN TRADING BANK	975	1,500	1,500
ABAS BANK	40,739	1,100	1,100
JORDAN TRADING BANK	1,110	2,000	2,000
NATIONAL GENERAL TRADING CO. LTD.	119,410	1,100	1,100
NATIONAL GENERAL TRADING CO. LTD.	9,927	1,100	1,100
NATIONAL GENERAL TRADING CO. LTD.	100,527	1,100	1,100
EL-KAY GENERAL TRADING CO. LTD.	2,000	2,100	2,100
EL-KAY GENERAL TRADING CO. LTD.	150,485	2,100	2,100
EL-KAY GENERAL TRADING CO. LTD.	55,195	2,400	2,400
GRAND TOTAL	999,710		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for trading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession in the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Friday.		
U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3738/48	Canadian dollar
	1.6680/90	Deutsche marks
	1.8696/06	Dutch guilders
	1.4098/08	Swiss francs
	34.33/37	Belgian francs
	5.6740/90	French francs
	1613.2/4.7	Italian lire
	104.02/12	Japanese yen
	7.9125/25	Swedish crowns
	7.2240/90	Norwegian crowns
	6.5100/50	Danish crowns
One sterling	\$1.5007/0	
One ounce of gold	\$383.35/383.65	

THE PROFESSIONALS
ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT
FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
TEL: 604676, 604696
P.O. BOX 7006
AMMAN

FOR RENT & SALE

Many villas and apartments furnished or unfurnished.

For more details call:
Abdoun Real Estate
Tel: 810605/810609/810520
Fax: 810520

La vie beauty center

For Facial cleansing, Massage, Suncaring, Waxing, Nail Care, Make-Up And Bridal Make-Up.

We use the best French Cosmetics

fernand aubry
Reservation & Information
Um Uthman - Tel: 661217

Budget

The Official Car & Truck Rental Company

WorldCupUSA94

Tel: 698 131
Fax: 673 312

THE ALL NEW Far East RESTAURANT

Live Entertainment

New Summer Terrace

- New Far Eastern Atmosphere
- The All New RAMIKAZE PUB

sports & Programmes Live Via Satellite

الدور الثاني - جيل مقفول
الرفيق العربي
2nd Circle - Jibal Amman
opp. Frenchbail
Tel: 653482 هاتف

Security, Hospitality & Gastronomy

Sweflyeh. 816690

Turino

Flat O.Tel
Serviced Suites in Grand Hotel Style I

Cheers

Cafe
Hamburgers & Pizzas
ELITE CAFE

12 am - V. Late

SOUTH ELECTRONICS CO.

DAEWOO

We have all types of Electrical home appliances T.V., W.M. Ref., Audios, V.C., T.V. with video, Fax, Planos

DUTY FREE

Wholesale and retail transactions

Sec. Tel: 696150/1/2
Fax: (9626) 696193
P.O. Box 850236
Amman - Jordan

THE ATMOSPHERE CREATORS

TALK OF THE TOWN DISCOTHEQUE

Open nightly
From 8:30 P.M. to 2:30 A.M.
Tuesday closed

Tel: 685211 Fax: 617779
Middle East Hotel - St. Jassim

SANABEL REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

Deluxe Villas and Apartments in Amman.

For further details please call

SANABEL REAL ESTATE
TEL: 864230 FAX 864231

Time Out Bar!!

Sweflyeh - 863944

The First Class Hotel in Amman that has a Kitchenette in every room! "Satellite T.V. Reception"

DAROTEL

Amman - Tel: 607193
P.O. Box 9403 - Fax 602434
Telex 23888 DAROTL JO

Ideal Residence For Expatriates and Businessmen

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

Air Conditioned Hall

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jibal Amman, near Athlyah Girls School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
7:00 — Midnight
Tel: 638966

THE BEST IN INDIAN CUISINE

Burnara

Open For Lunch & Dinner
For reservations call 613131

SZEEH WAN GARDENS CHINESE RESTAURANT

Typical Chinese Foods
Stirred Chinese Cooks

Open 12:30 - 3:30 & 6:00 - Midnight

Take away is available

Shat Al-Arab Street
Um Uthman Commercial Centre
Tel: 661174

Once Tasted Always Loved

AVIS

We try harder.

SAS

699-420

SELECT HOTEL

Superior Hotel Services for Businessmen & Families & its

NeGrEsCo BaR

Good Drinks & Excellent Snacks
Open Noons & Evenings

Jabal Al Webdeh/Tel: 637101/637102

S.M. & T. Z. GALLERY RESTAURANT

OPEN DAILY 12:00 TO MIDNIGHT

LUNCHES
AFTERNOON TEA
DRINKS AT THE BAR
DINNERS

SOUR MINT THAI
AMMAN TEL: 815087

STUDIO HAIG

Professional Quality in 1 Hour Service

Develop your colour film at our shop and get:-

- JUMBO photo size 30% larger
- Free enlargement 20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 604042
Sweflyeh tel: 823891

Cleaning Services Every Day

fast, efficient, and professional Cleaners

Phone 604571

Electrolux

Milano Restaurant

You Know Our Pizzas & Sandwiches Now Try The Italian Pasta

Milano Way

Spaghetti
Penne
Fettuccine

Prepared to you from fresh ingredients

For Tel: 637101

Rebels gain ground in Kigali

KIGALI (Agencies) — Violent clashes kept up Friday in the Rwandan capital Kigali where rebels were "slowly gaining some ground" against government forces, a U.N. military spokesman said.

The Hutu-led government forces however were "putting up a strong resistance" against rebel attacks, said Major Jean-Guy Plante of the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR).

In Gitarama, 50 kilometres to the south of the capital, there was a "standstill" in the rebels' drive to capture that town where the interim government, which the mainly Tutsi rebels reject, is holed up after fleeing the capital last month.

The army had sent reinforcements to the town but Maj. Plante said the hill in fighting was apparently because "both sides suffered casualties."

The deputy chief of UNAMIR, General Henry Anyikoho, was to meet Friday morning with the Rwandan army chief of staff, General Augustin Bizimungu, to discuss the situation at Kigali Airport, which has been closed since Sunday, and hopes of resuming the evacuation of civilians in battle zones, which has been halted for a week.

U.N. humanitarian flights were suspended after government forces shelled the airport as a U.N. plane was landing.

This evacuation of civilians blocked behind enemy lines on both sides was stopped after a convoy was fired in an attack attributed to the rebels.

Maj. Plante said the U.N. was having trouble finding an area inside government zones where they could transfer civilians trying to get out of rebel-controlled sectors.

The site used up to now, Runda, on the main road to Gitarama, was taken by rebels a few days ago, Maj. Plante said.

"We're hoping to start (evacuations) again tomorrow," Maj. Plante said.

U.N. humanitarian agencies such as the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme were to bring in Friday 15 tonnes of special biscuits to help feed 10,000 people for five days.

With Kigali Airport closed, U.N. convoys must use the road from Uganda's Entebbe Airport to bring supplies and humanitarian aid into the capital.

On Thursday, the U.N. Security Council gave the green light for the first phase of its planned deployment of 5,500 peacekeepers to try to staunch Rwanda's bloodbath, in which nearly half a million people have been butchered since the country slipped back into civil war two months ago.

Some of the latest massacre victims were the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Kigali and 12 other clergymen whose deaths were confirmed Thursday by rebels in the first admission by the RPF that its fighters had committed atrocities in the war.

RPF officials said "uncon-

trolled elements" had killed the 13 clergymen last week in Kabagyi, 50 kilometres southwest of the capital.

The report came as aid agencies said nine other priests and some 70 civilians had been slaughtered in government-held areas of the capital.

At the Vatican Thursday, Pope John Paul II expressed deep shock at the murders of the clergymen and called for an end to the country's blood bath.

Interim Rwandan President Theodore Nsindikirwabo, who arrived in Kinshasa Thursday, was set to fly on to Tunis Friday to attend the 30th summit of the Organisation of African Unity. The Zairean News Agency (AZAP) quoted him as saying the delegation he was leading would be the only one allowed to take part and "there was no other."

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni Thursday denounced killings of civilians by Rwandan rebels who are widely believed to be backed by his government.

Mr. Museveni, whose attack in a public speech was his second rebuke of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) in a week, said his government would not support anyone involved and would help the international community track them down.

His outburst followed the RPF's admission that its own guards had massacred 13 clergymen, including the Roman Catholic Archbishop of

Kigali, in their refuge south of the capital.

The head of the U.N. operation in Rwanda, General Romeo Dallaire, said Friday that little could be done to ease suffering and save lives there without a ceasefire between rebels and government forces.

He said the deployment of more U.N. troops to reinforce the 470 peacekeepers left in Rwanda after most of the 2,500-strong force withdrew in April as carnage engulfed the small central African country was "already weeks late."

Gen. Dallaire said he had received many calls for help, including from the priests who were massacred this week. But with few troops and limited equipment he was powerless to save them from death squads.

"We've had many messages from those in danger, including from the priests, but we just couldn't get through to help them," Gen. Dallaire told a news conference in the Kenyan capital Nairobi.

He stressed that the longer it took the United Nations to send in 5,500 troops planned for Rwanda, the more lives would be lost, and the more people would flee their homes to escape fighting.

"Unless we can get those armies to stop fighting, we're still going to have a lot of problems," Gen. Dallaire said. He said both sides had started examining ceasefire proposals by the U.N. at talks mediated by his deputy, Brigadier-General Henry Anyikoho.

U.N. commander: Bosnian peace at hand

SARAJEVO (AP) — The U.N. commander in Bosnia said Friday that peace is at hand, but Bosnian Radio reported Serb artillery attacks in the north, just hours before a ceasefire was to take hold.

Referring to a U.N.-brokered truce accord reached between the warring parties in Geneva Wednesday, Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Rose said it was "a comprehensive agreement, wider than a ceasefire. It's keeping the door open to further talks."

"We are seeing the beginning of the end of the war here in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

But Bosnian Radio reported that at 4 a.m. Bosnian Serbs started extremely heavy shelling of government-held Gradacac on the western edge of a narrow northern corridor linking Serb holdings in the east and west.

The new four-week ceasefire started at noon (1000 GMT). But U.N. field reports on its observance by the warring parties were not expected before late Friday or early Saturday.

Asking for comment on the chances of the latest truce, Gen. Rose said there was fear that the month will be spent preparing for further conflict.

Numerous Bosnia-wide ceasefire have failed. But recent rapprochement between Bosnian Muslim and Croat forces has halted fighting in much of central and southwestern Bosnia, and a local truce has kept besieged Sarajevo mostly quiet since mid-February.

On Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 244-178 to lift the arms embargo against Bosnia in what amounted to a slap at President Bill Clinton's foreign policy and a vote of no confidence in the ability of the United Nations to resolve the conflict.

Commenting on the vote, Gen. Rose said, "I think it does raise false hopes in people's minds. It takes a lot more than just being (well) equipped to win a war."

Bosnian Radio said Serbs attacked government defence lines and urban areas of Gradacac. It estimated that more than 800 rounds hit the area.

The radio also said that more than 1,000 rounds fell in the Gradacac region, about 20 kilometres (13 miles) southwest of Gradacac, wounding eight people.

Bosnia's minority Serbs, armed by the Yugoslav Federal Army, launched the war in April 1992 when they rebelled against Croat-Muslim moves to secede from Yugoslavia. More than 200,000 people are dead or missing.

The Serbs, who now control 70 per cent of Bosnia, pushed to Geneva for a permanent ceasefire. But the Muslim-led government feared that a long truce would cement Serb battlefield gains before a political settlement could be reached.

China snubs U.S. appeal, carries out nuclear test

BEIJING (AFP) — China conducted an underground nuclear test Friday, ignoring U.S. appeals and courting protest and dismay across the Asia-Pacific region.

The official news agency Xinhua quoted the Foreign Ministry as saying the test had taken place. It gave no details of the location or strength of the test, China's 40th since its first atomic bomb was detonated in 1964 at Lop Nor in the desert in far northwestern China's Xinjiang province.

According to Australia — which said it would file an official protest with Beijing — Friday's test took place at Lop Nor and had a strength of 10 to 40 kilotonnes of TNT. China's last nuclear test, with a yield of 80 to 90 kilotonnes, took place at the same site in October 1993.

The U.S. State Department Wednesday had predicted that a test would take place shortly and issued a statement that urged China to stop to conduct it.

It called on Beijing to join other declared nuclear powers — Britain, France and Russia — in an informal moratorium in place since 1992.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman reiterated Beijing's stand that it has always "exercised great restraint" in conducting nuclear tests, expressing China's understanding of the concern of non-nuclear

weapons states on the question of nuclear testing.

The United States has repeatedly carried out around 950 tests, Russia about 600 and France 200 and Britain 60.

The spokesman again pledged China's support for a comprehensive test ban by 1996, saying this should be a step towards the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

"We call on other nuclear weapon states to give up their policy of nuclear deterrence and commit themselves in explicit terms to complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons."

"We are ready to make continued and unremitting efforts with the international community for the early realisation of this ultimate goal," he said.

Despite China's support for a ban, it has said it will continue testing until the agreement is in place.

In 1992, China went ahead with two tests, the first of one to two megatonnes on May 21 and the second of less than 20 megatonnes on Sept. 28.

The two tests preceding Friday's explosion are thought to have been aimed at developing a new type of smaller nuclear head to be loaded on to a multiple warhead missile.

Continued testing, State Department officials said, complicates overall international non-proliferation efforts and discussion on a comprehensive nuclear test ban.

Georgia pins hopes on Russia with peacekeeping mission

TBILISI (AFP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin's decision to send 1,200 Russian peacekeeping troops to the disputed region of Abkhazia was welcomed Friday by Georgian officials, anxious to see the return of 250,000 displaced Georgians to the breakaway republic.

Georgia lost the autonomous republic of Abkhazia, located in the northwest of the republic, to separatist Abkhazian forces in September last year, forcing the quarter million Georgians to leave their homes to escape fierce fighting.

But the arrival of Russian troops, who will police the 48 kilometres (30 mile) "security zone" either side of the Inguri River, the natural frontier between Georgia and Abkhazia, under the terms of a Russian-brokered peace agreement, is a political second best for Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze.

Mr. Shevardnadze signed an unpopular peace agreement with the Abkhazians back in April in the hope of ending a U.N. peacekeeping force to the region but the United Nations has shown little interest in taking on a wider role in the Russian-dominated region.

"It doesn't matter whether the force is from the U.N. or Russia — the important thing is to have peacekeepers on the ground as quickly as possible," said Georgian official Jaba Ioseliani, who heads the Georgian delegation in negotiations with the Abkhazians.

The decision to send Russian

peacekeepers to the region comes during this week's visit by Russian Defence Minister General Pavel Grachev to Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan where he is pushing for Russian military retrenchment in the region.

Grachev is regarded across the Transcaucasus as Russia's "real foreign minister."

Gen. Grachev disclosed Thursday that Armenia has agreed "in principle" to let Russia open a military base there by Aug. 1.

ITAR-TASS News Agency quoted Gen. Grachev as saying the base would be located between Gyumry, where a Russian motorised division is now stationed, and the capital Yerevan, where a motorised regiment is based.

Gen. Grachev said the units stationed at the base would be "fairly powerful" and would include "airborne units that could intervene anywhere very quickly in case of necessity."

A member of the Russian delegation accompanying Gen. Grachev to talks with President Levon Ter-Petrossian said Russia wanted the Armenians to lease them the base for 25 years.

ITAR-TASS said Russia and Armenia had discussed creating a joint anti-aircraft defence system within the framework of a collective security agreement among members of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

All the proposals were expected to be approved by the presidents of the two states, the agency said.

Bacteria eating its way across U.S.

NEW YORK (R) — A "flesh-eating" bacteria that created panic in Europe where it killed at least 11 is now causing alarm across America, with grisly cases reported in at least six states.

It kills up to 2,000 a year in the United States and can mean amputations for those who survive. "It's like a fast-moving gangrene," said Dr. Stephen Baum, chairman of the Department of Medicine at New York's Beth Israel Hospital.

Experts are divided on whether the fast-moving strain is on the rise or just the subject of media hype after a well-publicised outbreak in Britain last month.

Cases of the flesh-devouring form of the Group A streptococcal bacteria have recently been reported in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Michigan and New York. In Britain 15 cases have been reported, with 11 patients dying.

Health officials say it's difficult to say if the number of cases is rising since the disease is not one of those requiring notification.

But some experts say it is clearly on the rise and may pose a risk to certain groups, including diabetics, children with some illnesses and pregnant women.

Russia agrees to join NATO military partnership

ISTANBUL (AFP) — Russia agreed Friday to join a NATO military partnership programme in exchange for stronger political links with the alliance.

In Moscow, President Boris Yeltsin announced that Russia would join the Partnership for Peace programme, and that NATO had agreed on a legally-binding protocol on special political relations with Moscow.

"NATO agrees that such a protocol is needed. They shall sign it and we shall sign Partnership for Peace," he told a press conference, adding: "Without a doubt, we shall sign."

In Istanbul, meanwhile, Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev confirmed that Russia would sign the partnership between NATO and the countries of the former Soviet Bloc.

Spanish Foreign Minister Javier Solana quoted Mr. Kozyrev as saying that he needed one more visit to NATO Headquarters to discuss final details before signing the partnership.

Mr. Kozyrev was speaking at a meeting of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, a forum of NATO countries plus the nations of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

On Thursday, NATO foreign ministers had agreed to meet Russia's request for a closer political relation with the alliance.



Brigadier General Marcel Gatsini representing government forces arrives in an armoured car at the United Nations headquarters in Kigali to negotiate a ceasefire with the Rwandan Patriotic Front (AFP photo)

S. African prisoners granted 6-month remission

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) — The minister responsible for South Africa's prisons announced Friday a six-month blanket remission for common-law convicts, following crisis talks on jail riots in which at least two convicts, following crisis talks on jail riots in which at least two inmates died.

The "across the board" remission was announced by Correctional Services Minister Sipho Mzimela at Modderbee Prison near here, where rioting has killed two inmates and injured 29 inmates and wardens.

The announcement followed crisis talks Friday between Mr. Mzimela and President Nelson Mandela as riots by prisoners demanding their freedom spread.

A total of seven prisons in various centres have been affected by a wave of strikes and rioting which followed a call by the South African Prisoners' Organisation for Human Rights (SAPOHR) for "peaceful action" by prisoners, including work stoppages and hunger strikes, to demand political amnesty.

Mr. Mzimela also met with Deputy President F.W. de Klerk, Safety and Security Minister for PWV province — the greater Johannesburg area — Jesse Duarte, and SAPOHR leader Golden Miles Bhudu, his spokesman Joel Ntshintzhe said.

Mr. Mzimela was dispatched to Modderbee Prison, where, according to the domestic news agency (SAPA), prison authorities Friday morning fired stun grenades and rubber bullets into the prison, where 500 black and white prisoners went on the rampage for the second day in a row.

SAPA said the authorities, backed by police, had brought the situation back to normality by Friday afternoon.

Like other prisoners across the country, Modderbee inmates are demanding their immediate freedom under a general amnesty Mr. Mandela alluded to on May 10 when he was sworn-in as South Africa's first black president.

They are also demanding the resignation of Mr. Mzimela.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rao defends economic policies

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao Friday defended his sweeping free-market policies that have come under muted criticism from his party as a departure from decades of socialist rhetoric. But the star attraction of a ruling Congress (I) convention which Mr. Rao opened here was Sonia Gandhi, the Italian-born widow of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, fuelling rumours of her possible entry into politics. Mr. Rao, 73, said at the start of the two-day Congress session here that the economic policies pursued by his government since he assumed power in June 1991 were not dictated by international aid agencies. "It is said we have departed from traditional (left-of-centre) policies," Mr. Rao told 1,100 delegates gathered at a sports stadium in the heart of the city. "We are only doing what we think is right." "We take our own decisions," Mr. Rao said in his 27-minute speech.

Catholic shot dead in N. Ireland

BELFAST (R) — A Catholic man who worked as a welder in a Belfast shipyard has been shot dead in a suspected attack by Protestant extremists, police said Friday. The body of the 50-year-old murder victim was found by work colleagues late Thursday in a tanker under construction at Belfast's Harland and Wolff Shipyard. He had been shot in the back. A police spokesman called the attack a "brutal, cowardly, sectarian murder" of a family man going about his daily work. The Belfast shipyard has a mainly Protestant work force and the few Catholic employees have often complained of threats. Meanwhile, two suspected IRA guerrillas arrived in Dublin Thursday after being acquitted by a German court of the murder of a British army officer, Sean Hick and Paul Hughes made no comment when they arrived in Dublin, bolting for the doors after spotting journalists waiting for them at the airport. The two men, guided to the exit by airport police, were bundled into a waiting car and driven off.

Murtaza Bhutto storms police blockades

KARACHI, Pakistan (R) — Murtaza Bhutto, estranged brother of Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, and a dozen armed guards stormed two police blockades Friday as he began his journey home after 16 years in exile. The 39-year-old Mr. Bhutto, freed on bail last week by an anti-terrorist court, warned of horrible consequences if the government tried again to prevent his homecoming. "I don't know why they blocked my road," he told Reuters. "If the government of Sind (province) is going to make a problem with me there are going to be horrible consequences. I am in no mood to make compromises." Mr. Murtaza, his car escorted by two jeeps of heavily armed guards, ran into a police blockade just moments after leaving his Karachi home, built by his father the former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Filipino kidnappers demand ransom

SAMPIT, Philippines (R) — Muslim extremists who shot 15 hostages have threatened to harm 21 remaining captives in the southern Philippines if the government does not stop rescue efforts, military officials said Friday. "If they see the presence of police and military, the hostages will be harmed," military officials quoted go-between Barahama Salih as saying. Mr. Salih is acting as an intermediary for members of the fundamentalist Abu Sayyaf guerrilla group, who have already killed 15 kidnapped Christians and are still holding 21 on Basilan Island, 950 kilometres south of Manila. Southern Military Command chief Lieutenant General Orlando Soriano ordered a halt to all military movements on Basilan while government negotiators led by island governor Jerry Salapudin met Mr. Salih.

Police stumble onto possible Van Gogh painting

COMO, Italy (AFP) — Italian police who searched a car trying to cross the border into Switzerland stumbled upon a painting they said could be a Van Gogh. The 50cm-by-40cm (about 19 inches by 16 inches) painting depicts two cottages by the sea and is signed with the name Van Gogh in red, said police. Art historians Giuliano Collina, who examined the work, said it could well be by the Dutch master. He said the colouring appeared to be from the right period and that fake Van Goghs were rare. The two huts are remarkably similar to one of Saintes-Marie-De-La-Mer, near Arles in southern France.

But Polish Foreign Minister Andrzej Olechowski warned Friday that links between NATO and Russia should not be allowed to overshadow and "marginalise" the efforts of smaller members of the partnership programme.

He called for the rapid and full integration of new Eastern European democracies such as Poland into NATO, in parallel with the strengthening of pan-European political cooperation.

Meanwhile, a NATO diplomat said here that the alliance is not ready to sign a protocol with Russia to enshrine a broader political relationship as announced by President Yeltsin Friday.

He said NATO had agreed to hold a joint press conference with the Russians to announce the political accord.

But the diplomat insisted that NATO would not sign a legally-binding protocol, nor even issue a joint written statement, to enshrine the agreement.

NATO, worried by the global spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, agreed Thursday to consider setting up defences to counter this new post-cold war threat if diplomatic and other methods failed.

At Thursday's meeting, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher called the pro-

مكتبة من الكتب

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pele: Colombia is best

NEW YORK (AFP) — Brazilian football legend Pele called Colombia the best of 24 teams in the World Cup finals, but stopped short of predicting the South American team would hoist the championship trophy after the July 17 final. "For me, Colombia is the best team," Pele said here Thursday. "It doesn't mean they are going to win. Colombia has a good team. They have (Faustino) Asprilla. Colombia has a very organized team." "Win? I don't know. But they will be one of the four finalists," he added. Pele said Italy's Roberto Baggio and Brazil's Romario join Asprilla as players who could lead their team to the title with inspired play once the tournament starts June 17. "Brazil has very good players, but as a team they are not so necessarily compact, like Germany. Germany doesn't have so many big names but they work well together," Pele said. Pele called Ireland tough and said Nigeria's talent would put them into the second round before inexperience showed. He also predicted a second-round bid for the U.S. team if they beat Switzerland in their opener June 18.

Hungary's coach, league president quit

BUDAPEST (R) — The president of the Hungarian Soccer League and the national team coach have quit in the wake of a string of poor results, a league official said Thursday. Jozsef Verebes, 70, signalled he would step down as coach after Hungary were dumped 7-1 by the Netherlands last week. The team was beaten 3-1 by Belgium in a friendly Wednesday night. "I am tired of fighting windmills, of struggling in vain," Verebes was quoted as telling the daily Nemzeti Sport. The official said league President Mihaly Lazcko resigned earlier Wednesday, complaining he could not do his job because of the league's strained finances. Lavish spending on Hungarian soccer under former communist governments has dried up since the advent of democracy. New, privately-owned corporations have not been able to generate sufficient sponsorship, leaving the game in a state of limbo, Verebes and Lazcko were expected to explain their decisions at a press conference called by the league Friday.

Antonio Oliveira gets Portugal job

LISBON (AFP) — Antonio Oliveira was named as Portugal's new football manager here Friday. The 42-year-old former FC Porto and Sporting Lisbon player takes over from caretaker manager Nelo Vingada. Vingada was drafted in when Carlos Queiroz left the job to manage Sporting Lisbon. Antonio Oliveira was sacked last season by club side Sporting Braga after a run of bad results.

Japan sacks top football official

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's football authorities beefed up their bid for the 2002 World Cup by sacking top official Tadao Murata here Friday. A day-long meeting of Japan's 2002 committee also saw Murata, formerly general-secretary of the bid, also stripped of his vice-presidency of the Football Association of Japan. Murata's replacement, Saburo Kawahuchi — the brains behind Japan's successful J-League — was appointed deputy chairman of the bid committee's executive board. Murata's demotion follows his much-publicised failure at the Asian Football Confederation's recent elections to appoint the region's FIFA vice-president. Murata came last on the four-man ballot which was won by arch-rival Chung Moon-Jung, head of Korea's own bid to stage the 2002 World Cup.

Greek club offers \$8 million for Kukoc

ATHENS (R) — Greek club Panathinaikos have offered Toni Kukoc of the Chicago Bulls \$8 million to sign a two-year contract with them, club officials said Friday. The officials said it was the highest offer ever made by a European team for a basketball player. "It is a serious and good offer," Kukoc's manager Lutsiano Capikoni was quoted as saying in Greek newspapers. "The decision is now on Toni and the Bulls." Kukoc, a Croatian, joined the Chicago Bulls from Italy's Treviso in July 1993.

Friends keep ex-champ out of classroom

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Almost daily visits from friends kept boxer Mike Tyson away from his in-prison classroom studies and possibly cost him a chance for early release, a published report said Friday. A recent memo from prison officials showed Tyson had "excessive classroom absences," the Lafayette Journal and Courier reported. Tyson has a sentence reduction hearing Monday before Marion superior court judge Patricia Gifford. The former heavyweight champion's attorneys plan to argue that Tyson has rehabilitated himself in prison largely because of his academic progress. Tyson was sentenced to six years in prison after being convicted in February 1992 of raping Desiree Washington, a contestant in a beauty pageant.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
& TAMARA HIRSH
©1993 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

ENTER THE SCAVENGERS

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ K Q J 9 2
♥ J 10 9 8 7 4
♦ 8
♣ 2

WEST
♠ A 10 7 8 3
♥ A K
♦ A 3
♣ K Q 5 4

EAST
♠ Q 6 2
♥ 9 8 5
♦ A J 10 9 8 3
♣ K 7

SOUTH
♠ 4
♥ 5 3
♦ K Q J 10 7 2
♣ K 7

The bidding:
East 3♠ South 3♠ West 3♠ North 3♠
Pass Pass Rdbl Pass
Pass 5♥ Dbl 5♥
Pass Pass Dbl Pass
Pass 6♥ Dbl Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠
When your opponents try to push you around in the auction, you must teach them a lesson. The way to do that is to extract the maximum penalty.
Since the hand might belong to North-South, North doubled five clubs for takeout, showing the major

South—a development that did not thrill South. South was prepared to play five hearts undoubled, but not doubled—hence the retreat to six diamonds when West wielded the ace.
East-West could have scored 920 for bidding six clubs, though they were certainly not getting there had South passed. Even with a diamond lead declarer need only win, cash the ace and king of hearts, come to hand with the ace of trumps and discard a diamond on the queen of hearts. Thus, four down or more from six diamonds doubled would yield a profit.
Sitting East-West were Chicagoans Peter Nagy and Howard Weinstein. On the ace of spades lead declarer faked out with the eight, leaving West in doubt as to who held the singleton spade. The shift was to the diamond ace and East followed with the nine, a suit preference for spades. West reverted to a spade, ruffed by East who returned a heart. West took two heart tricks, then put declarer on lead with a trump. At the end, declarer had to lead a club away from K♠ allowing the defenders to take two tricks in the suit for a penalty of 1,700. Ouch!



U.S. Leroy Burrell looks up as he crosses the finish line to win the 100m B race at Rome's athletics Grand Prix here late Wednesday. Burrell clocked 10.06 seconds (AFP photo)

Preakness, Derby winners to battle again in Belmont Stakes

NEW YORK (AFP) — Preakness winner Tabasco Cat and Kentucky Derby champion Go for Gin meet in the Belmont Stakes here Saturday, a showdown to decide which three-year-old racing horse is best.

Go for Gin, which drew the inside post position Thursday, is a 9-5 favourite with Tabasco Cat next at 3-1.

"None of us are really sure how the race will go because we have not gone this far before," said D. Wayne Lucas, Tabasco Cat's trainer. "If we have a horse that's relaxed and mentally ready, I think we have a good chance."

Three of the last four Belmont races have been won by horses who ran in neither of the other two U.S. Triple Crown events.

"A rested horse is always better, so it's even more to his credit if Go for Gin wins," said the horse's trainer, Nick Zito.

Ivanisevic ousted; Sampras advances at Queen's tournament

LONDON (R) — Fourth seed Goran Ivanisevic became the biggest casualty of the London grass court tournament when he crashed 7-6, 7-6 to little-known Swede Jan Apell in the third round at Queen's Club late Thursday.

But world number one Pete Sampras brushed aside Japan's 1992 runner-up Shuzo Matsuoka to claim a place in the quarter-finals with a 7-6, 6-2 triumph, a vast improvement on his laboured three-set win over Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden Wednesday.

Apell, ranked 127 in the world, took the tie-breaks 11-9 and 7-2 against Ivanisevic and afterwards confessed his astonishment at winning.

"I don't know what is happening," the 24-year-old from Gothenburg said. "I have only played on grass once as a junior and two other years, but I have never done anything."

The tall Croatian, who has still not got past the third round in three appearances, made no comment because he was scheduled to play doubles.

His defeat followed the upset of sixth-seeded Boris Becker of Britain's Jeremy Bates Tuesday. Bates continued his progress with a 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 over Daniel Nestor of Canada and will face Apell in the quarter-finals.

Matsuoka served up a reminder of how he beat Stefan Edberg and Ivanisevic en route



Goran Ivanisevic

to a shock appearance in the final two years ago with some brilliant deliveries to force a first-set tie-break against Sampras.

But once the Wimbledon champion, who begins his defence of that title in 11 days' time, swept it 7-2, he turned on a brilliant exhibition — after an 80-minute rain break at 0-1 in the second set. He broke the world number No. 135 twice to wrap up a 7-6, 6-2 victory.

"I had a tough time in the first set because he has a monster serve, the court was very damp and it was tough to return. It wasn't until the tie-break that I really got to his serve," said Sampras after his

79-minute victory. The 25-year-old had toiled with his own delivery in the first set, producing three double faults in one game. But he explained he was going for a pretty hard second serve. It is important to keep going for it.

Sampras is now chasing the second time in six years to win Queen's and he agreed to play in a better form of mind than 12 months ago.

"I am getting to like Europe much better," he said. "It's a long time away. I will be away for over two months and I am doing okay."

Germany defender to miss World Cup opener

The Associated Press

THOMAS Strunz, a starting defender for Germany, will miss next Friday's World Cup opener against Bolivia because of a hamstring injury.

Strunz, 26, sustained the injury in Wednesday's 2-0 victory over Canada, Germany's last warm-up match before it defends its World Cup title.

"There are always miracles, but I can't imagine I'll be able to play," Strunz said at training camp in Alliston, Ontario. "You really prepare for the opening game, you concentrate hard on it, and then unfortunately something like this happens. But now I am looking ahead to the game against Spain."

Mario Basler, a rookie offensive midfielder who was carried off the field Wednesday with what was thought to be a serious knee injury, should be able to resume full training within three days.

"It looked very bad and it was very, very painful," team physician Heinrich Hess said. "But it turned out to be only bad bruising and a strain of interior ligaments. If his recovery continues to be so successful as in the first 24 hours, we

can assume that he'll be able to play in Chicago. With Strunz, it's more than a muscle strain, although it's not a real tear, but he needs a week of rest."

There were no warm-up games Thursday.

At Italy's camp in Martinsville, N.J., dozens of students, and some teachers, lined up Thursday to get autographs from Nicola Bert and Paolo Maldini, apparently the most popular players on the Italian World Cup team practicing at the Pinsky School.

Bert and Maldini are tall and handsome and were recently picked as potential models by Italian designer Giorgio Armani, who supplied the official team uniforms.

Bert had not played with the national team for nearly two years before this spring. He returned three months ago after recovering from a serious knee injury.

"Bert is a key player, but must work more than others to get used to our tactics and coordinate with the teammates," Italy coach Arrigo Sacchi said.

Italy opens its World Cup campaign June 18 against Ireland at East Rutherford, N.J. One day later, the Italian team

will attend a "festa italiana" at Madison Square Garden in New York. It features Italian entertainer Renzo Arbore, his "Grande Orchestra Napoletana" and some popular Italian singers, including Lucio Dalla.

Brazil, the World Cup favourite, continued to draw criticism back home despite an 8-1 rout of Honduras Wednesday night in a World Cup warm-up at San Diego.

"Brazil blows out Honduras, but makes many mistakes," read a front-page headline in O Globo, a Rio de Janeiro daily, which also printed a cartoon of a faceless soccer player in a sweatshirt wearing red high heels.

The daily Jornal do Brasil reported that Brazil "didn't control the game. We have serious problems."

Soccer writers were merciless with the team's midfield and shaky defence.

In Bucharest, Valentin Ceausescu, elder son of Romania's former communist dictator and an ardent soccer fan, said Thursday he planned to

attend the World Cup.

Ceausescu, 47, said he had obtained a visa to travel to the United States. He described the trip as a "private matter."

He did not say when he would leave or give details of his travel plans.

In San Diego, Sweden's team said it found tranquility in southern California.

There were no fans, no autograph seekers meeting the team after the 15-hour plus journey from Sweden. Few people paid attention when the players checked in at their beach-front hotel after being escorted straight from San Diego Airport's tarmac.

"This is almost like Sweden. It's peaceful and quiet. It's like vacation," midfielder Jonas Thern said. "We want it this way. There was no red-carpet welcome, but that's all right with me."

The Swedes had an impressive 2-0 victory over World Cup-bound Norway in Stockholm Sunday in the last tuncup before departing to the United States.

Poor shooting haunts Knicks

HOUSTON, Texas (AFP) — Horrid shooting by both clubs made the opening game of the National Basketball Association (NBA) finals an ugly one coaches vow will not be repeated.

"If you're a pro player who is paid to make those shots, you make them. You just make them," New York coach Pat Riley said.

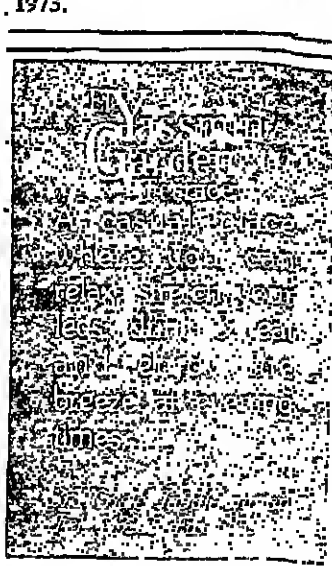
The Knicks missed 60 of 91 shots in their 87-78 loss to Houston here Wednesday, including 18 of 24 attempts in the fourth quarter. The Rockets failed of 43 of 74 shots, including 11 of 13 in the lowest-scoring final period ever in an NBA final.

New York's John Starks made only three of his 18 attempts. The funeral of an uncle had kept him from practice with the team and bothered him in the game.

"I can't blame what happened on my personal problems," Starks said. "I shoulder a lot of responsibility for the loss. If I had played a little better, we would have won."

Houston will be looking to double their lead in the best-of-seven series here Friday in game two, before the final moves back to New York Sunday and next Wednesday.

New York's defence, the best in the NBA, has withstood every challenge to reach the final for the first time since 1973.



FOR RENT

Unfurnished four bedroom apartment, newly built. Located in Al-Rabia near the Chinese Embassy. Please call 813709

UNFURNISHED BRAND NEW APARTMENT FOR RENT

Area 207 sq.m. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fitted kitchen, 3 balconies, laundry room and private car park. Location: Tiaa Al Ali, 1/2 km from Kilo Supermarket. Tel: 605632, 8 - 9 a.m. & 6 - 9 p.m.

ARABIC SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGE

The Language Center at the University of Jordan announces that the Intensive Course in Modern Standard Arabic for Speakers of Other Languages will commence on June 18, 1994 and will last for 8 weeks. The program is intensive. (classes are in the morning and meet for 20 hours per week, Saturday - Wednesday). Those interested please call at the language Center for registration.

Registration begins on Saturday 11.6.1994.

YOU HEARD IT FIRST FROM US.

Wear your birth stone always.

DAJANI JEWELLERS

Amman Hotel Amman

WALL HANGINGS - FRAMES - SCULPTURES

DAJANI JEWELLERS

On June 12, 13, 14 & 15 Jabal Weibdeh From 8:00am - 8:00pm Tel: 656877

LEATHER HANDBAGS - CANVAS TOTE BAGS

TODAY	Cinema	Tel.: 634144	Cinema	Tel.: 699238	Cinema	Tel.: 677420	Cinema	Tel.: 618274 - 618275	Cinema	Tel.: 675571	Cinema	Tel.: 625155
	PHILADELPHIA		PLAZA		CONCORD		AMMOUN THEATRE		Nabil Al Mashini Theatre		ARLAN THEATRE	
	Tom Cruise & Holly Hunter in The Firm Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00		CLASS 1999 '2' Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30		CONCORD '1' FX - 2 Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD '2' THE GETAWAY Shows: 12:30, 3:45, 6, 8:15, 10:15		Soon the new play !!!		Today & Everyday Abu Awwad in social comedy "PUNCTURED BAG"		is back to you after performing in Canada as of Wednesday, June 15, 1994 in their play: "What a person?" Performances start at 8:30 p.m.	

Christopher: Turkish deal on Iraqi oil is not final yet

ISTANBUL (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said on Friday that Washington backed Turkey's plan to cleanse an Iraqi oil export pipeline running across its territory, but technical details were still being worked out.

"We have of course agreed in principle that the pipeline could be flushed," he told reporters in Istanbul.

Details on technical details of the operation were proceeding with Turkey and at the United Nations. "The problem has not been completely resolved," Mr. Christopher added.

He said Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller had stressed the importance of flushing the pipeline when they met on Thursday on the sidelines of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) foreign ministers meeting.

Turkey wants the U.N. Security Council to approve a technical resolution to let it empty, flush and refill the 1,000-kilometres pipeline, discussed since Ankara closed it in response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Ankara says its proposals do not violate U.N. trade sanctions against Baghdad because oil from the pipeline would not be sold on the world market and no money would go to Iraq.

Most of the proceeds would go to buying humanitarian goods for the Iraqi people as approved by the United Nations. Some money would flow to a U.N. compensation fund

for victims of the Gulf crisis caused by Iraq's seizure of Kuwait.

"The proceeds of the flushing would be handled in a way consistent with the U.N. resolution," Mr. Christopher said.

Turkey says it owns 3.8 million barrels of the estimated nine to 12 million barrels of crude trapped in the pipeline running from Iraq's Kirkuk oil fields to a Turkish Mediterranean terminal.

The Iraqi news agency said Wednesday that after the loss of billions of dollars, Turkey this month will resume cross-border trade with Iraq that was halted during the Gulf war.

Sadi Calislar, Turkey's charge d'affaires in Baghdad, said commercial activities would resume through the Habur border station sometime in the middle of June, according to the news agency. He did not mention a specific month.

Turkey last month said it planned to do this and would operate within the limits of the U.N. sanctions against Iraq.

Ankara had been forced to halt all trade across the border with Iraq because of an escalation last year in guerrilla activities by Kurdish separatists seeking autonomy from Ankara.

A successful military crackdown on the Kurds and increasing economic hardship in Turkey have prompted Ankara to look into ways to resume trading of goods allowed under the U.N. embargo.

Habur is 1,000 kilometres

southeast of Ankara, and sits on the border with Iraq's northwestern corner.

Mr. Calislar also said Turkish authorities were carrying out intensive contacts with members of the U.N. Security Council "in order to reach a mutual understanding of implementing the agreement concerning the reopening of the Iraqi-Turkish oil pipeline."

Turkey held talks in Baghdad in April about draining the pipeline.

"Kurds want Iraqi unity"

Iraqi Kurdish leader Masoud Barzani pledged Friday that the Kurds would not work against the unity of Iraq, despite his call for a U.N. protectorate.

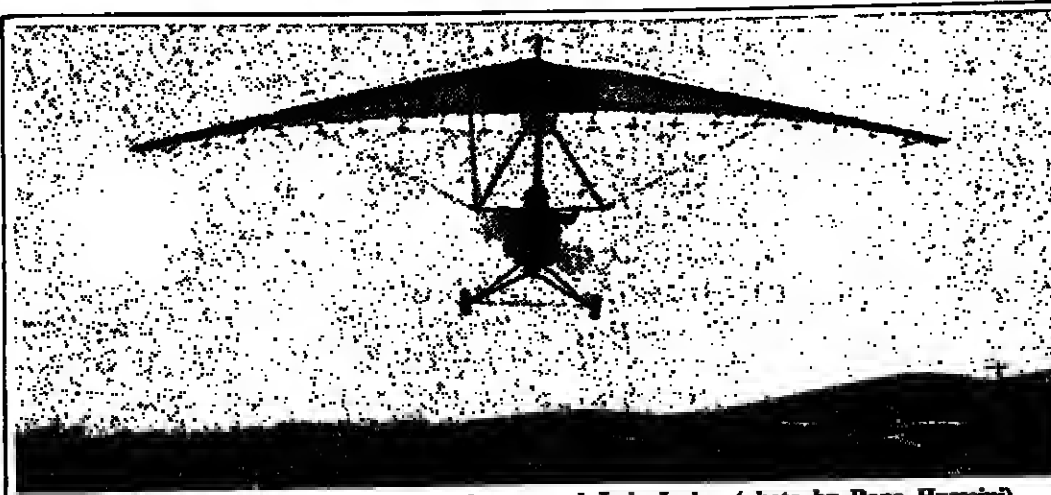
"We endorse and support the unity of the Iraqi people and Iraq's territorial integrity. Our policy in this regard has been firm, consistent and unchanging," he said in a statement received by AFP.

Mr. Barzani said the Kurds aimed for democracy and federalism within a united Iraq. "We strongly believe that the Kurdish issue can best be resolved within the broader Iraqi issue," he said.

On Monday, the head of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) proposed in an interview with foreign journalists that northern Iraq be turned into a U.N. protectorate, following a month of war between rival Kurdish factions.

The "50-50 arrangement" of the KDP sharing power with

Continued on page 5)



The microlight of British aviators Ben Ashman and Judy Leden (photo by Rana Hussein)

British aviators give Jordanians a taste of microlight flying

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and dozens of citizens Friday took to the skies over Amman in a thrilling aerial experience that will also help cancer research efforts.

Those who came to Marka airport for a chance at a birds-eye view of the capital were taken on a 15-minute cruise in a microlight aviation vehicle, piloted by the British world champion microlight team of Ben Ashman and Judy Leden.

Mr. Ashman and Ms. Leden landed in Jordan on May 30 after a two-week journey from England on a mission they call "Flight for Life."

Mr. Ashman, who started flying when he was 16, said this volunteer mission was intended to realise the dream of his Jordanian friend Yassin Saudi who died of lung cancer last February.

Mr. Ashman said he built his first hanglider in 1973 out of wood.

"When I was 16 I flew for the first time, and I never

looked back," Mr. Ashman told the Jordan Times.

A flier for 22 years, Mr. Ashman explained that the microlight, a single-engine open-cockpit aircraft weighing 150 kilograms, can carry a payload of 390 kilograms.

On a full tank of gasoline, the microlight can remain in the air for four hours, cruising at 50 miles per hour. It is capable of speeds up to 80 miles and as low as 25 miles per hour.

The wing area on the two-seater craft is 150 square feet, the wing span is 34 feet.

A microlight can cost between JD 10,000 to JD 12,000 in Jordan, exclusive of taxes, said Mr. Ashman.

For Ms. Leden, her best flight was when she soared over the spectacular landscape and colourful rock formations of Wadi Rum.

"The best thing I enjoy is flying over Wadi Rum in the early morning because the light and the scenery are magnificent," said the 35-year-old world champion, who has been flying for 15 years.

"I'll do anything that is open to the elements, feeling the wind on my face and

temperature changes and smelling the air," she said.

She said flying lessons on the microlight included important subjects such as meteorology.

"Weather is the most difficult area and should be examined carefully, and having a good knowledge of reading winds and clouds helps flying tremendously," Ms. Leden said.

According to Ms. Leden and Mr. Ashman, the team is negotiating with local companies on starting a microlight training school for Jordanians in October.

"We've had lots of people who were interested in learning and buying microlights," he said.

Mr. Ashman, Ms. Leden and an accompanying team were received by King Hussein last week and were awarded the Al Hussein Gold Medal for Excellence in appreciation of their humanitarian efforts.

Friday's event included an airshow by the Royal Falcons and was attended by Chief Chamberlain Ra'd Ben Zeid, Prince Mirid, Minister of Tourism Mohammad Adwan and hundreds of spectators.

Jordanians to be among evacuees from Aden

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — More than 100 Jordanians are expected to be among several hundred foreigners who will be evacuated from Yemen by sea in an operation scheduled to begin on Monday, U.N. officials said Friday.

But the U.N. officials or any Jordanian official could not confirm reports that a group of Jordanian families were being detained in Aden.

"Our information is that the Aden authorities are not imposing any restraints on any foreigner leaving the country," said a senior U.N. official. "We have been told that more than 100 Jordanians would be among those to be evacuated this week."

Jordanian officials also said they had no details of the so-called Jordanian detainees in Aden or any confirmation that there were such detentions at all.

According to the unconfirmed reports, the "detainees" included women and children held separately from men and that the Jordanian government was trying to secure their release.

While no reason was immediately given for the purported detention, the reports suggested that Aden could be "retaliating" for alleged Jordanian help to the Sanaa government in the north.

Jordan has categorically denied charges by southern Yemeni leader Ali Salem Al Beidh that the Kingdom had sent weapons to Sanaa to help the northerners in the civil war that broke out on May 4.

The U.N. officials said a ship had set sail from Dar Es Salaam in Tanzania and was expected to dock at Aden late Sunday. The evacuation operations are expected to begin on Monday.

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM), an inter-governmental agency based in Geneva, issued a statement on Friday confirming the departure of the ship for Aden.

The IOM said about 700 foreigners caught up in the Yemeni civil war were expected to be evacuated aboard the vessel to Djibouti across the Gulf of Aden.

In addition to 115 Jordanians, the ship will carry 193 Palestinians, 59 Iraqis, 47 Russians and three Americans, the IOM said. In addition, Egyptians, Cubans, Filipinos, Indians, Slovenians, Sri Lankans, Sudanese and Tunisians will also be among the evacuees, it said.

Jordan and Egypt have agreed to pay for the air fare for their nationals to come home, the Geneva-based agency said.

"If the boat arrives on Sunday night, we will try to begin the evacuation on Monday morning if the security conditions permit," an IOM spokeswoman said in Geneva. "There is a lot of shelling."

(Continued on page 5)

Refugee problem will be solved in final status talks — U.S. official

By Marjorie M. Shalin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The plight of 2.5 million Palestinian refugees will be resolved in the context of "final status talks," Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Daniel Kurtzer said during a Worldnet satellite news briefing with journalists in Amman, East and West Jerusalem this weekend.

Avoiding reference to U.N. Resolution 194, which enshrines the 'Palestinian refugees' right to choose to return to their lands or receive compensation, the deputy assistant secretary said "we are very supportive of U.N. Resolution 242."

Pressed to make clear the position of the U.S. government on the issue, Mr. Kurtzer said he thought it was "not fruitful to take a position." He added that "it is up to the parties themselves to define the parameters and solutions for problems that they face."

U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, passed on Nov. 22, 1967, makes a single reference to the refugee issue. It "affirms" the need for "achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem."

U.N. General Assembly Resolution 194, passed on Dec. 11, 1948, "resolves" that "the

refugees wishing to return to their homes and live at peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practical date, and that compensation should be paid for the property of those choosing not to return and for the loss of or damage to property which, under principles of international law or in equity, should be made good by the governments or authorities responsible."

Mr. Kurtzer would not confirm or deny reports that ongoing efforts to create better living and working conditions for the more than 500,000 refugees living in Syria and Lebanon and more than 900,000 refugees living in Jordan were in fact attempts at permanently settling the refugees in the countries that have hosted them since 1948.

"There are many rumours in the region," Mr. Kurtzer said. "We have had a consistent position on this issue. We continue to support Resolution 242 as a basis to resolve this issue."

Asked why the refugee issue was not on the agenda of last week's Jordanian-Israeli-American trilateral talks in Washington, Mr. Kurtzer said that each trilateral meeting dealt with different issues.

Mr. Kurtzer defined re-

fugees as "any people displaced as a result of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Mr. Kurtzer said that refugees fell into three different categories: The 1948 refugees, 1967 displaced peoples, and people falling into the family reunification plan.

The multilateral working group on Palestinian refugees, meeting in Cairo at the sixth session (May 10-12), set up a programme of activities that will improve the living conditions of Palestinian refugees.

The working group, according to Mr. Kurtzer who led the U.S. delegation to the meeting, is designed to "alleviate the worst living conditions."

The programme or agenda of the working group includes and job training, family reunification, child welfare, health conditions as well as economic and social infrastructure.

The working group set up a special fund for programmes in and outside the occupied territories in such areas as housing, paramedics, health services, and job training, Mr. Kurtzer said.

The United States, he said, has pledged \$10 million to these special programmes.

Amman-based United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) official Ismael (Continued on page 5)

Study establishes feasibility of doubling of pumping Disi water

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A study conducted by a British firm has established the feasibility of pumping drinking water from the Qa Disi aquifer in the south of Jordan, but has also found that the underground reservoir has a limited life span and great caution should be exercised while exploiting it.

An "action plan" drawn up by Haiste/Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick, a London-based international consulting firm, said the government had to take the "strategic decision as to whether to bring the water to Amman in the short term or use it for the possibly greatly expanding needs within the Aqaba/Maan governorates."

Estimates drawn up by experts have said that it could cost up to JD250 million to pump Qa Disi water to Amman through a pipeline —

around JD1 million per kilometre. It was not immediately known whether the estimates were still valid.

The Qa Disi aquifer, which Jordan shares with Saudi Arabia since it straddles the border, is considered as a key reserve for Jordan, where concerns are high over the availability of water over in the next decade, given the relatively rapid growth of population and the depletion of underground resources.

Studies have indicated that Qa Disi could yield up to 120 million cubic metres of safe water every year. The present consumption of Jordan is estimated at more than 800 million cubic metres. Annual rainfall is ten times the actual consumption, but catchment is poor.

Against the backdrop of the continuing strain in political relations caused by the Gulf crisis of 1991, Jordan has not been able to reach a working arrangement with

Saudi Arabia over sharing the Disi water, which is tapped by the Saudis in the Tabuk region.

International experts, drawing conclusions from Jordanian studies as well as interviews with officials, estimate that Saudi Arabia, which began pumping Disi water at a rate of 25 million cubic metres per year in 1983, has increased the rate to 250 million cubic metres.

"At this rate, the reserve will be exhausted in 25 years," noted Natasha Beschorner, author of "Water and Instability in the Middle East."

According to water experts, the estimates that the aquifer would run out in 25 years were made when the Saudis were pumping 250 million cubic metres a year. "But now the rate is closer to 650 million cubic metres a year," said an expert who preferred anonymity.

(Continued on page 3)

Activists fight over role of foreign organisations in Jordan

By Nur Sati

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Foreign organisations in Jordan have come under heavy criticism from several political parties and commentators over the last six weeks, but former prime minister Ahmad Obeidat countered that "the accusations lack scientific basis and objectivity."

Abdullah Hamoudeh, in an interview with Al Ufuq weekly magazine, Mohammad Subeichi, columnist with Al Dastour and Yagoub Zayadin, head of the Communist Party had all charged the organisations with attempting to brainwash the public into a Western-style democracy through the various workshops conducted by them, especially in the socio-political fields.

Critics consider the assistance of the foreign organisations as attempts of cultural domination and an "intrusion" into Jordanian society. They say that in order for these organisations to conduct research on the country they must gather information on the characteristics of the society and statistics which the critics see as a "theft of Jordanian minds."

Furthermore, the critics charge, these organisations

are politically active since they give assistance to political parties, and that this is a form of indirect financing of parties from overseas, in contradiction with the Political Parties Law.

But other activists do not agree with the charges. They see the foreign organisations as a valuable asset for Jordan and argue that their activities are based on cooperation with their Jordanian counterparts.

Mr. Obeidat, a senator and president of the Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution which is associated with the German Friedrich Nauman Foundation, argued that the charges lack scientific basis and objectivity and attributed the charges to frustration as a result of developments regarding the Palestinian cause and lack of Arab unity in addition to political inter-party competition.

Mr. Obeidat said he believes "this storm will pass," and that in a world of open communications it is healthy to exchange views and experiences with foreign organisations provided it does not touch on higher national security and peoples' interests and is conducted on the basis of equality and in an atmosphere of trust.

Although the charges are

aimed at all foreign organisations in the country, most of the accusations have been targeted at the three German foundations; the Konrad Adenauer, affiliated with the Christian Democrats, the Friedrich Nauman Foundation, affiliated with the Free Democrats and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation of the Social Democrats.

The controversy was triggered by an interview in Al Ufuq magazine two weeks ago following a seminar held by Al Urdun Al Jadid Research Centre in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

In the interview, titled "Research or Spying Centre?" Mr. Hamoudeh said he considers it acceptable for the organisations to help in the scientific fields, such as agriculture, water and environment, but the socio-political field should be left alone as it is not an issue that needs foreign financing and intervention and does not serve national interests.

"We are offering the foreigners a service but they do not really support us (in their future dealings)," Mr. Hamoudeh said referring to the West's attitude regarding Arab-Israeli relations.

Defenders of the organisations say they are conducting

activities based on cooperation with Jordanian counterparts: training and transfer of experience and general education in the political life and political democracy.

Zalekh Abu Rishah writing in Al Rai daily June 7 said that some people were still living with the romantic mentality of the 1960s that had become outdated.

Ms. Abu Rishah said that accusing those organisations of being spy centres is some people's way of "exaggerating their patriotic credentials, climbing the official or public ladder, or creating a media uproar."

She said she found it absurd to suggest that Jordanian researchers funded by those organisations would reach different conclusions from others funded by local enterprises.

The director of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Dr. Andrea Gaerber, said that one of the foundation's objectives is to reduce existing prejudice against the Arabs and increase knowledge about the Arab World in Germany. "Germans lack knowledge of the Arab World. We do not find many politicians familiar with this region. This (making them known to Germans) is our role," he said.

Addressing the issue of legality and charges of indirectly funding local parties, Dr. Gaerber said that although the foundation stands for the Social Democrats it is totally independent. "We do not get funds from the parties. We get state funds or donations from private people," he said.

Furthermore, when one of the foundations wants to conduct a workshop or any other activity, the organisation must get permission from various related government departments and must be represented by a Jordanian organisation before the activity can take place, according to Mr. Obeidat.

Mohammad Subeichi, a lawyer and columnist with Al Dastour daily, wrote on June 4 that German interest in Jordanian democracy had some underlying aim. "Since they can organise these activities (such as workshops) they must be well familiar with the characteristics of the Jordanian society. This is a process of cultural theft and theft of Jordanian minds."

Mr. Subeichi was referring to activities like the June 11 "political party workshop" being organised by Al Urdun Al Jadid and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. The four-day workshop will be attended by 14 political parties including the Islamic Ac-

tion Front and aims to give local parties the opportunity to exchange ideas and experience with their German counterparts, according to organisers.

But some members of political parties say they will not attend the conference because they feel the organisation, Konrad Adenauer, is trying to collect information for its own purposes.

Mr. Zayadin, who is invited to participate in the workshop, said he would not attend and urged the organisations to "save their money and go home."

Dr. Zayadin, who lived in Germany in the 1960s, questioned whether the foundations' "intrusion into Jordanian society" has anything to do with humanitarian reasons.

"Should we be controlled all our lives by them? First Turkey then Britain and (now) the U.S. We know our interests more than these suspicious foreign organisations which are looking for agents," he said. "Kicking them out is a patriotic job."

According to Hani Hourani, director of Al Urdun Al Jadid, the organisers invited 22 political parties to the workshop and so far 14 parties have confirmed their participation. That in itself, he said, is an answer to such

attacks on the participating foreign foundation.

The workshop will bring two German experts and 10 Jordanian politicians together to discuss the political parties' experience in the two countries.

"The Konrad Adenauer Foundation is an old one," Mr. Hourani said, "and I believe they are giving us good experience in different fields. I can't see why (these organisations) are considered dangerous."

A spokesperson at the German embassy, who preferred not to be named, said that it was up to the Jordanian parties whether to attend the workshop or not. "The organisations do not interfere in their work. The purpose is to share and exchange experience," the spokesperson said.

As the controversy continues, according to Mr. Zayadin, a coordination committee of eight parties he did not name recently sent a memorandum to Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, urging him to intervene against the organisations. The reply came from the Ministry of Interior who said the organisations are licensed by the Ministry of Social Development, Mr. Zayadin said.

COLUMN

Vote by Mandela 'niece' did not count — official

WELLINGTON (AFP) —

The vote of a woman who claimed to be South African President Nelson Mandela's niece did not count in April's elections because she had no proof of citizenship, the official who ran special voting here said Friday. Because of time zones and special voting, New Zealand resident Nomaza Paintin won worldwide publicity when she voted here and was considered to be the first black woman to have voted in South Africa's first all-race elections. But chief electoral officer Phil Whelan said Ms. Paintin had no proof of South African citizenship. Mr. Whelan said he had been given instructions by Justice Johan Krieger, chairman of the Electoral Commission, to mark the envelope containing her ballot paper with the words "no voter eligibility documents available." Her vote was the only vote cast in New Zealand with that endorsement. "What happened to that vote, I have no way of knowing but without proof of identity it couldn't have been counted," he said.

Aboriginal officer says police racist

PERTH, Australia (AFP) —

One of Western Australia's longest serving aboriginal policemen has quit, claiming the state's force is Australia's most racist. Sergeant Gerry Collard, 48, confirmed Friday he resigned after a 23-year career — alleging that racism had become entrenched among the state's 4,000 police. His allegation was rejected by acting deputy Police Commissioner Les Ayton, who said: "We do not accept that racial problems exist. We have been dealing with that problem."

But Mr. Ayton revealed an investigation was underway into a recent incident in which Sgt. Collard alleged that a white officer had defecated in his coffee cup during a party at the Central Law Courts here.

Mr. Ayton said: "At this stage there is no evidence anyone defecated in Collard's cup, save for him saying the cup smelt strongly." Sgt. Collard claims he was subjected to racist taunts and ignored by fellow officers at 10 separate postings during his career.

"They involved what I feel are racist things towards me and my family. I have to conclude from this that the Western Australian force is Australia's most racist," Sgt. Collard is the husband of aboriginal actress Rhonda Collard. She and aboriginal actor Frank Mannup claimed three years ago that they were mistakenly terrorised by officers of the crack police tactical response group. Police later issued a public apology.

Australia develops sun-protection dye for clothing
SYDNEY (AFP) — Australian scientists announced Friday they had developed a dye for clothes that would protect wearers from the sun's harmful rays. Australians suffer one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world, with the New South Wales Cancer Council estimating two in three Australians will get non-melanoma skin cancer in their lifetimes.

Several manufacturers here already sell tee-shirts and other garments with a sun-protection factor on the label, equivalent to the ratings given on sun creams. The new product, Rayosan, is similar to a colourless dye that absorbs ultraviolet radiation and is added to material during the weaving process. It was developed in 1992 after six years' research by the Australian company Sunsafe, in conjunction with Unisearch, the commercial arm of the University of New South Wales, said Bernie Thompson, managing director of Sunsafe. "The chemistry has been around for 30 years, we have just given it a new application," he said. An average adult shirt could be treated with Rayosan for 30 Australian cents (22 U.S. cents) during manufacture, Mr. Thompson said. "We believe that in three years, there will be some 10 million garments treated with Rayosan per annum worldwide and two million in Australia," he said, adding that a recognised standard for sun protective clothing should be developed. "It is the most effective way of increasing sunlight protection ever devised," said Gavin Greenoak, scientific director of the Australian Photobiology Testing Facility, which independently tested the process.

Christophe

has eased the curbs on

recapture capital

Mexico

denies

time deal

North

denies

denies

denies

denies

denies

denies

denies

denies

denies

denies

denies

denies